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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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BRIEFS

NORTH-SOUTH TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD--Contracts are expected to be let later this year for work on completing the transcontinental railway linking south and north Australia. At present, the railway runs from Port Augusta in south Australia to Alice Springs in the center of the continent. The federal government has now announced that work is to start on laying 1,400 km of track to link Alice Springs with Darwin. The prime minister, Mr Fraser, said the final half of the north-south railway would cost \$545 million and would be completed by 1988. Mr Fraser said the project would provide employment for 1,200 people and require 150,000 tons of rail and 2.25 million concrete sleepers. The prime minister added that as well as breaking down the isolation of northern Australia, the railway would provide great benefits to the national economy and defense. [Text] [BK141419 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Jan 83]

FISHING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL--An advisory council is being set up to report to the federal government on the fishing industry. The minister for primary industry, Mr Nixon, said the new body, to be known as the Australian Fishing Industry Advisory Council, would be an important source of advice at a time of significant change for the industry. Mr Nixon said close consultation between the federal government and the fishing industry was vital for a number of reasons including development of the 200-nautical mile Australian fishing zone, settlement of offshore constitutional rights between commonwealth and the states and new management measures proposed for some large fisheries. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Jan 83 BK]

PACIFIC NATIONS' EXPORTS INCREASE--Pacific island countries are exporting more to Australia and New Zealand. Officials at the South Pacific Bureau for economic cooperation say that under the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement [SPARTECA] trade agreement, New Zealand is estimated to have taken more than \$5 million worth of goods in 1981. In Suva, the Australian Trade Commission says that out of 96 product groups in which Australia trades or is interested, 54 have registered an increase and 28 have registered trade for the first time. SPARTECA was negotiated in 1980 and came into force in 1981. To boost the economies of the island countries, Australia and New Zealand agreed to scrap duties and quota control on a wide range of products without asking for reciprocal concessions. [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Jan 83 BK]

HIGH COMMISSIONER TO ZAMBIA--The Australian Government has appointed its first resident high commissioner to Zambia, he is (I.A. James), a career diplomat, who will shortly take up his appointment in Lusaka. There has been an Australian High Commission in Lusaka since 1980 but no resident high commissioner. The country has been served by Australian high commissioners in neighboring Tanzania who have been accredited to Zambia. [BK140233 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Jan 83]

HIGH COMMISSIONER TO VANUATU--Canberra, 4 Jan (AFP)--The new Australian High Commissioner to Vanuatu is Jean Norwood, who will take up her appointment early next year, the foreign affairs department announced. Miss Norwood, 49, will succeed Michael Ovington who has been high commissioner in Vila since 1980. [BK140233 Hong Kong AFP in English 0756 GMT 4 Jan 83]

UNIONS OPPOSE WAGE FREEZE--The Australian Council of Trade Unions [ACTU] has reaffirmed its opposition to the federal government's wages freeze and has directed its affiliates to plan a coordinated campaign against it. The wages freeze ordered recently by the arbitration commission applies for at least 6 months to the wages of all Australians employed under federal industrial awards; that is, almost half the country's work force. The decision to campaign against the freeze was taken at a meeting in Melbourne today of the ACTU executive. President of the ACTU Dolan says the decision was taken because the union movement is opposed to the control of wages without the control of prices. He said that it's likely that the first stage of the campaign will involve more than 12,500 workers in the oil industry. The arbitration commission has twice refused to ratify an 8 percent wage rise which oil industry unions claim was awarded in an agreement with employers finalized before the wages freeze was ordered. A radio Australia reporter in Melbourne says it is likely that the oil industry campaign will be the forerunner to a 6 percent wage claim which the ACTU executive today decided to lodge on behalf of all Australian workers in the private and public sectors. [Excerpt] [BK181021 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Jan 83]

CSO: 4200/311

BRIEFS

MOKHTAR TO VISIT MOROCCO--Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja reported to President Suharto on his plan to visit Morocco tomorrow morning. He reported on the followup of the Law of the Sea Conference, which needs coordinated considerations. In this connection, efforts will be made for the ratification of the Indonesian-Malaysian agreement on the recognition of the Indonesian archipelagic concept. [Text] [BK180925 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 18 Jan 83]

MOKHTAR DISCUSSES AL-QUDS MEETING--Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja has said that the forthcoming Seventh Al-Quds Committee meeting is being held at an appropriate time. Indonesia hopes the meeting would be able to take effective and constructive decisions in supporting efforts toward the settlement of the Palestinian and Middle East problems. This was stated by Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja in Jakarta today before leaving for Morocco to attend the Al-Quds Committee meeting, which will be held from 21 to 22 January 1983. According to the foreign minister, the Arab League Conference in Fes in September 1982 has made positive development which resulted in a consensus among the Arab countries in formulating the basic guidelines in security peace in the Middle East. Apart from that, there is an increasing sympathy among the international community toward the Palestinian people's struggle following the massacre by Israel of the Palestinian refugees. [Text] [BK191415 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 19 Jan 83]

SUBROTO DISCUSSES OPEC MEETING--The minister of mining and energy, Subroto, said in Singapore today that OPEC is expected to approve the formula on production quota proposed by Indonesia. Minister Subroto, who is in Singapore to attend the ASEAN Energy Ministers Conference, expressed his optimism over the outcome of the forthcoming OPEC emergency meeting to be held in Geneva next Sunday to prevent the oil prices from declining. The ASEAN ministers in their meeting in Singapore today have taken into consideration the future of regional cooperation and the utilization of coal as a source of energy to replace oil. A conference source said that one of the proposals called for a study on coal development in ASEAN countries, which is estimated to cost \$800,000. [Text] [BK191511 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 19 Jan 83]

OPEC TO DISCUSS QUOTAS--Indonesia will host a meeting of an OPEC Committee on 4 February. The meeting will be held in Jakarta and attended by representatives

from Venezuela, Algeria, the UAE and Indonesia. It will discuss a fair and equitable formula, which can be maintained by each and every OPEC member, for sharing the yearly 18.5 million barrels (figure as heard) of crude oil production. Mining and Energy Minister Subroto said this to the press following his meeting with President Suharto at the Bina Graha Presidential Office today. Minister Subroto further reported to the head of state the situation in the crude oil market in general at the beginning of January 1983. According to Minister Subroto, the crude oil market price at present was fluctuating and no longer reflected a supply and demand ratio. The market was more speculative in nature he said. Minister Subroto said that OPEC members were still waiting for the outcome of the next OPEC meeting before determining their attitude in the future. [Text] [BK051225 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 5 Jan 83]

AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS--President Suharto this morning received the credentials of the new Canadian ambassador to Indonesia, Earl Gordon Drake. The president this morning also received the credentials of the new French ambassador, Jean Marcel Soulier. Meanwhile, the new Jordanian ambassador, Majid al-Haji Hasan, and the new Bulgarian ambassador, (Juli Bafnef), also presented their credentials to President Suharto. [Text] [BK081046 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 4 Dec 82]

LAPAN'S LAUNCHES SUCCEED--The National Aviation and Space Agency [LAPAN] has achieved four perfect launches of LAPAN-made scientific rockets from the South Garut Launching Pad in West Java. The rockets, measuring more than 4 meters long, were launched from a 75-degree angle and reached an altitude of 40 kilometers. The first rocket carried two scientific instruments, an accelerometer and a solar observation device. The other rockets carried meteorological instruments to measure pressure and temperature at various altitudes. [Text] [BK081046 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 7 Dec 82]

JAKARTA POLICE COMMANDER--The post of the commander of the 7th Jakarta Metropolitan Police Region was today transferred from Police Maj Gen Anton Sujarwo to his successor, Police Brigadier General Sujoko, at a ceremony held at the Jakarta Metropolitan Police Auditorium which was presided over by the commander of the Indonesian Police Force, Police General Dr Awaluddin. Police Maj Gen Anton Sujarwo was recently appointed as the new commander of the Indonesian Police Force succeeding Police General Dr Awaluddin. [Text] [BK081046 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 8 Dec 82]

KIAU OIL EXPORTS--Oil exports from Riau Province during last September reached 16.12 million barrels worth \$561.5 million. This was an increase compared to the previous month's exports of only \$483.25 million. Oil from Riau Province was exported to Japan, Singapore and the United States. [Text] [BK081046 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 7 Dec 82]

WEST NUSATENGARA TRANSMIGRANTS--The head of the West Nusatenggara Regional Office of the Transmigration Directorate General, Widod Saputro, has told a parliamentary team visiting the region that between the first 5-year development plan and the 4th year of the third 5-year development plan his region has sent

8,236 families, comprised of 41,180 members, for resettlement at various trans-migration projects in Sulawesi, Kalimantan and Maluku. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 16 Dec 82 BK]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO IRAN--The Iranian Government has approved the appointment of Mohammed Sabir as the new Indonesian ambassador to Iran, succeeding Imam Supomo. [Text] [BK141409 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 13 Jan 83]

ARGENTINE AMBASSADORIAL NOMINEE APPROVED--The Indonesian Foreign Affairs Department announced on 13 January that the Indonesian Government had accepted the nomination of Dr Tomas Alva Negri as the new Argentine ambassador to Indonesia. [Text] [BK141409 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 13 Jan 83]

ENVOY TO BANGLADESH--The Bangladesh Government has approved the appointment of Rakhmad Sukartiko as Indonesian ambassador to succeed Ambassador Thayeb Basuki Sastrohardoyo, who has completed his tour of duty. [Text] [BK311415 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 27 Dec 82]

CSO: 4213/509

ENVOYS TO SEEK AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR SIHANOUK

BK101203 Hong Kong AFP in English 1123 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Text] Singapore, 10 Jan (AFP)--Malaysian envoys will visit several African countries in the next few weeks to drum up support for President Norodom Sihanouk at the non-aligned summit to be held in New Delhi in March, it was learned here today.

This decision was reached at a meeting of senior foreign ministry officials from Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore, the three non-aligned countries in the five-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), here last Friday, according to sources today.

The meeting was called to discuss, among other subjects, a joint strategy on ASEAN's demand that Prince Sihanouk, president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, should be invited to address the non-aligned summit.

Sources said the meeting, called just before the visit to Jakarta and Singapore of a special Indian envoy, K. S. Bajpai, to brief them on the arrangements for the conference, was attended by Director General of the Indonesian Foreign Ministry Munawir Shazali, Malaysia's Foreign Secretary Tan Sri Zakaria Ali and several officials from the host country.

The three countries, with the tacit help of the two other ASEAN members, Thailand and Philippines, and countries sympathetic to the coalition government are intensifying their drive to see that India reverses its stand on President Sihanouk.

As host country, India decided not to invite President Sihanouk or the Heng Samrin regime which it recognises to the summit on the basis of the decision taken at the last summit in Havana to leave the Cambodian seat vacant.

Mr Bajpai is expected to reiterate the stand when he calls on Deputy Prime Minister Sinnathamby Rajaratnam and Foreign Minister Sukppiah Dhanabalm here Wednesday afternoon though Singapore will almost certainly make strong representations on behalf of the coalition government which it helped to forge. Mr Bajpai is currently in Indonesia on the latest stage of his tour of Asian states.

CSO: 4200/308

BRIEFS

OUTGOING PHILIPPINE ENVOY--His majesty the king today granted a farewell audience to the outgoing Philippine ambassador, Mr Jusup Abu Bakar at the National Palace in Kuala Lumpur. [Text] [BK180600 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 14 Jan 83]

INDIGENOUS INVESTMENT INCREASES--Indigenous investment has increased from 761 million ringgit in 1981 to 1,082,000,000 last year. The chairman of the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority, announcing this, says their percentage has risen from 44.5 percent in 1981 to 56.6 percent last year. He attributes the increase to the involvement of indigenous institutions in the public sector. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 14 Jan 83 BK]

IRANIAN TRADE MISSION ARRIVES--Iran is interested in identifying and developing bilateral grade with Malaysia. Its deputy minister of trade, Mr Hedayatzadeh, said this (?in line) with the republic's policy of strengthening its relationship with friendly Muslim countries. The Iranian deputy minister is in Kuala Lumpur with a 10-member team for a fact-finding 5-day mission. The delegation was met by the deputy minister of trade and industry, Datuk Sharir Abdul Samad, at the Subang International Airport this evening. The delegation among other things will study the economic development and facilities available in the country. It will also identify commodities that can be exported to Iran. [Text] [BK101437 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 10 Jan 83]

MAHATHIR PLANS MID-YEAR VISIT--The Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir, is to visit Australia. The prime minister said in Kuala Lumpur today he would also be visiting 12 other countries during the year. The Australian visit, which is likely to take place in the middle of the year, follows a visit to Malaysia last August by the Australian prime minister, Mr Fraser. Radio Australia's Kuala Lumpur correspondent, Wong Fuan Wah, says it will be Dr Mahathir's first official visit to Australia and is significant in that the Malaysian leader is becoming more accommodating in his attitude to Australia. He says Dr Mahathir is critical of Australia's trade and immigration policies, and is particularly annoyed by Australian public and press criticisms of the Malaysian Government's record on human rights. Our correspondent says a major issue Dr Mahathir will discuss on his upcoming visit will be the future of the Australian mirage jets in Butterworth Airbase in Malaysia. The first squadron of 18 jets are due to be withdrawn from June and a decision on the second squndron is to be made in 1984.

PHILIPPINE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS GAP DOUBLES

HK210158 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 20 Jan 83 p 2

[Text] A sharp drop in the country's export earnings and the postponement of borrowings from the World Bank caused the country's overall balance of payments deficit in 1982 to balloon to \$1,135 million, almost double the \$560-million gap in 1981.

Central Bank [CB] Governor Jaime C. Laya said in his year-end report to President Marcos that the huge deficit was "not peculiar" to the Philippines since other developing countries with no oil production also suffered from poor export demands and high interest rates.

The 1982 BOP--the record of the country's transactions with the rest of the world--showed that the huge overall payments deficit was recorded despite a slight drop in import payments. While imports amounted to \$7,800 million last year, down by \$146 million or 1.8 percent from \$7,946 million in 1981, the country's export earnings only reached \$4,995 million, down by \$727 million or 12.7 percent from 1981's 5,722 million.

Prices: Laya mainly blamed the drop in prices of the country's traditional commodity exports such as coconut oil, sugar, and minerals for the dive in export earnings last year.

The deficit in merchandise trade amounted to \$2,805 million, and what added to this was a \$542-million deficit in invisibles (nonmerchandise trade such as tourism and transfers). The deficit in invisibles was mainly caused by \$1,811 million in interest payments for the country's foreign debts.

The current account (trade and invisible transactions) deficit reached \$3,347 million, which was partly offset in the computation of the overall payments deficit by a \$1,934 million net inflow of foreign borrowings and investments. "Certain large capital inflows that were originally expected in 1982 were not received," Laya said. Such included a \$300-million loan from the World Bank, which has been rescheduled for release this year. A huge capital inflow would theoretically bring down the overall payments deficit, if the funds were not used for importation.

Debts: even with the postponement of foreign borrowings, the country's fixed term foreign debts (without the short-term loans used mainly for trade such as payment of oil imports) already amounted to \$12,959 million, or 14 percent more than the \$11,372 million fixed term foreign debts in 1981. The short-term loans, meanwhile, reached \$4,015 million as of September last year (latest available figure), for a 16 percent increase from \$3,454 million in the same month in 1981.

The government accounted for 59 percent or \$7,645 million of the fixed foreign debts, while the private sector had \$5,313 million. The government also borrowed more foreign funds than the private sector last year.

Laya said the government similarly borrowed from domestic sources to finance its huge budgetary deficit, which amounted to P14.4 billion last year. It borrowed some P7.8 billion from domestic sources and P2.2 billion from abroad and then used about P4.5 billion of its deposit with the banking system to cover its huge budgetary deficit.

Laya said the public sector accounted for most of the expansion in domestic credit last year, which grew by 24.3 billion to P137.7 billion.

CB lendings accounted for almost 50 percent of the increase in domestic credit. Outstanding CB loans amounted to P38,211 billion as of end-1982, a P11.4 billion or 42 percent increase from P26.79 billion in 1981. The government obtained P3.13 billion of the expansion in CB lendings, while the private sector had P8.29 billion.

Laya noted that the huge BOP deficit "exerted contractionary impact" on the available funds in the system "to the extent of P19.48 billion."

Total liquidity reached P95.2 billion as of end-1982, or a 16 percent rise from 1981, Laya said. Savings and time deposits grew by 27 percent to P53.3 billion, while IOU issuances of financial institutions dropped by 2 percent to P16.1 billion.

CSO: 4200/310

PHILIPPINES

ARMY COMMANDER URGES VIGILANCE AFTER TOWN RAID

HK150151 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 14 Jan 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Tagum, Davao del Norte, 13 Jan--Maj Gen Delfin C. Castro, Southcom commanding general, reminded military personnel here to be more vigilant in the campaign against insurgency.

Castro said the Mabini town raid in which the entire town police force was disarmed by the New People's Army [NPA] could have been avoided if the police force had been more vigilant and cautious.

He said the raiders in fatigue uniforms came aboard private vehicles and this would have alerted the police.

Castro said government troopers on official missions always ride on military vehicles.

Castro, together with Col Dionisio Tangatue, PC-INP (Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police) Recom 11 commander, arrived here today on a helicopter to investigate the Mabini town raid.

Mabini Mayor Cristina Rodriguez told the BULLETIN that she was caught by surprise by the raiders. She said she was in her office in the municipal hall when two armed men entered and advised her to come downstairs. On the ground floor, she was told to lie flat on the ground, with other personnel.

Meanwhile, eight suspected NPC rebels were apprehended in their hideout in Barangay Sabangan, Compostela, early today.

CApt Porfirio C. Corpuz, intelligence and operations officer of the local PC-INP command here, in a report to Col Milton S. Tiburcio, PC-INP commander, said the rebels were resting in a hut when government troopers, led by P/Lt Miguel Belarmino, surprised them.

CSO: 4200/310

PHILIPPINES

'BUSINESS DAY' REVIEWS AGRICULTURAL SCENE

HK150205 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 14 Jan 83 p 2

["Review and Preview" by Ruben J. Pascual: "Agriculture '82: A Bumper Crop of Problems"]

[Text] The past year again saw Philippine agriculture with a bumper crop of problems. The baffling worldwide recession continued to pull down international prices of coconut oil and sugar, the country's top agricultural exports, resulting in lower export earnings. In the domestic scene, prices of major farm products also dipped. Copra prices remained low despite the removal of the coconut levy. Palay prices also collapsed during the third quarter as the National Food Authority [NFA] ran out of procurement funds.

A rash of demonstrations struck various agriculture sectors. Coconut, sugar and palay farmers staged different demonstrations to dramatize their plight. They sought higher farm prices, lower input costs and reasonable credit prices. Even the big commercial fishermen at one time threatened to freeze operations when government was allegedly not showing signs of support for the fledgling deep-sea fishing industry.

In responding to farmers' demands, major policy reforms were instituted last year. The government's buying price of sugar, palay and corn were raised. The coconut levy was scrapped in the hope of increasing copra prices of all but one fertilizer grades were either frozen or rolled back in view of the decline in the international prices of the chemical ingredients.

In the wake of worsening balance of payments deficit, major import substitutions programs were accelerated. Foremost among these programs is maisagana, designed to wipe out the yearly \$50 million yellow corn importations to supply the needs of the growing livestock and poultry industries. Local cotton production accounted for at least 15 percent of the national cotton requirements. The National Dairy Development Program made modest strides to minimize the country's corn importations. A new project is about to be launched for rubber production to finally make the country self-sufficient in the commodity.

The one encouraging note last year was the continued growth of the aggregate agriculture output despite the declining international commodity prices and the generally low buying prices at the farmgate.

Preliminary estimates by the Ministry of Agriculture showed production of palay went up 2 percent; corn, 4 percent; sugar 4 percent and coconut 4 percent to 5 percent. A 7 percent increase in livestock and poultry product production was likewise projected. A 5 percent hike in fish output was also estimated.

Headaches: only two weeks into 1982 and the first headaches of government in agriculture surfaced. Farmer demonstrations in Aliaga, Nueva Ecija, San Miguel, Bulacan and at the premises of the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Agrarian Reform saw farmers demanding for higher palay prices, an intensified palay procurement, and a freeze in the fertilizer prices. Coconut farmers were also vigorously prodding the government to find ways to help push copra prices at the farmgate. Sugar workers last February likewise demanded an increase in the domestic prices of sugar not allocated for export.

Frantic search: during the first quarter, government was somewhat frantically searching for measures to alleviate the plight of farmers. A series of meetings by the National Food and Agricultural Council, the Batasan Committee on Agriculture and a host of other consultations with farmers were set to find the best measures to solve the farmers' problems.

Government made the initial move during Farmers Day last May. The government support price of palay was raised from P1.55 to P1.70 per kilo. This is the price at which NFA buys farmers' palay. The prices of all but one fertilizer grades were either frozen or rolled back to bring down farmers' cost of production.

President Marcos also raised the price of sugar allocated for domestic consumption by 50 percent, from P110 to P165 per picul. The price adjustment was made to arrest the dwindling production of sugar. Sugar producers were slowly shifting to planting other crops as a result of the low prices paid by the National Sugar Trading Corp. for their sugar.

During the anniversary of the Philippine Sugar Commission, the president assured sugar producers that government would maintain the domestic prices paid for sugar at P165 per picul even with the slump in world market prices of the commodity. This was perhaps the best news received by sugar producers in 1982.

The biggest headache of government last year was the coconut industry, on which some 15 million Filipinos depend for their livelihood.

Philippine exports of coconut oil crumbled to an estimated \$400-\$450 million from \$553 million in 1981. The international prices of the commodity fell to as low as 16 cents per pound, the lowest in four years. Moreover, the demand for coconut oil in the world market weakened with the introduction and expansion of oil substitutes such as rapeseed oil, cotton seed oil, palm oil, palm kernel oil and others.

Levy scrapped: the controversial levy was finally scrapped by government--after much bickering and debate--in an attempt to prop up copra prices at the farmgate. Government reports however revealed that no significant changes in copra prices were seen after the levy lifting. Speculations were that coconut traders held on to incremental income resulting from the elimination of the levy.

The levy, economists say, cost the farmers a great deal. The millers passed on the cost of the levy to farmers by discounting the price they pay for farmers' copra. Without the levy, the millers will be in a position to pay higher prices for copra. This, however, did not happen last year.

With the weakening demand for coconut oil in the world market, new markets were sought for excess coconut oil supplies. The local market was tapped, particularly the cocodiesel program. But millers saw their copra supplies for conversion to coconut oil dwindling. Exporters, because of the depressed prices of coconut oil, shifted to the exportation of copra, which enjoyed higher prices in the market. The government later banned copra exports in order to assure coconut mills a more stable supply of copra for crushing.

The establishment of new desiccating plants were also prohibited. The marked for desiccated coconut have become so competitive that the entry of more desiccators may threaten the entire industry. For the first time in eight years, the international price of desiccated coconut decreased, indicating the tight competition among desiccators.

The government's solution to the worsening conditions of the coconut industry was the launching of an intercropping program for coconut farmers. Crops such as coffee, cacao, root crops and others were to be planted in coconut growing areas in order to augment the incomes of the poor coconut farmers. Some P100 million was allotted by the president for this program.

Sugar price: as with coconut oil and other coconut products, the prices of sugar in the world market was discouragingly low. Sugar prices dove to a record-low five cents per pound. The country was some-what fortunate that government was able to commit in long-term contracts half of the country's exportable sugar at an average price of 23.5 cents per pound. This cushioned the effects of the depressed international prices of sugar.

But by 1984, these contracts will expire. By that time, all of the country's sugar exports will be exposed to the volatility of the world market. At year-end, the government had yet to come up with a new strategy to protect the local industry.

Meanwhile, government efforts to boost the export of other agricultural crops were not enough to offset the country's losses from coconut and sugar exports.

Other crops: Banana export for instance did not expand last year and stood at 70 million cartons last year, the same volume registered in 1981. Pineapple exports, likewise failed to increase, setting at \$42 million from \$45 million in 1981.

Papayas, dubbed as the best export potential among Philippine fruits, also found no markets in Japan. At present, Japan has yet to approve the fumigation system used in local papaya plantations. Likewise, mango exports to Japan were stymied, also due to Japanese objections over the fumigation system. Most of the country's mango exports are shipped to Hong Kong where quarantine requirements are not as strict.

Production: while agricultural exports suffered setbacks last year, the total agricultural production improved.

The policy analysis staff of the Ministry of Agriculture estimated increases in the following crops: rice (2 percent), corn (4 percent), sugar (4 percent), and coconut (4 percent to 5 percent). A 7 percent increase in livestock and poultry products was also projected. A modest 5 percent hike in fish production was likewise seen.

Palay production rose to 165.6 million cavans from 162.2 million cavans in 1981, or a 2.2 percent increase. This was achieved despite a 100,000 hectare production in palay hectarage. The output was still high in view of the increase in per hectare yields of palay.

Corn production increased by 4.1 percent, from 65.8 million cavans to 68.5 million cavans. This was attributed to the expanded hectarage resulting from the maisagana program.

Sugar production is projected to improve following the increase in sugar prices paid to producers. The output this year is estimated at 2.55 million tons, 4 percent larger than the previous year's 2,452 million tons.

Domestic production of coffee was placed at 76,000 MT, up 8.5 percent from year-ago levels. Cacao, on the other hand, posted an 11 percent increase, to 4,600 MT from 1981's 4,120 MT.

Philippine tobacco supplies likewise expanded to 48,000 MT, up 11.6 percent from 1981. This was a result of the expansion by 3.4 percent of the area planted to tobacco last year.

Cotton production was estimated at 17,450 MT, 28 percent higher than the other year's output.

Recovery: Agriculture Minister Arturo R. Tanco, Jr., projects agricultural recovery this year. Agricultural exports will expand, production will continue to increase and prices of agricultural commodities will stabilize, he said.

With the huge rice surplus the government now holds in stock, Tanco projects a substantial exportation of rice before the first half of the year. The country has some 200,000 to 300,000 MT of exportable rice, he said.

Maisagana, which suffered from loan repayment problems last year, will significantly reduce the country's importation of yellow corn. Last year, the

NFA imported over 200,000 MT of the feed ingredient. But the targeted corn exportation may have to wait until 1985.

Nontraditional crops: government will launch a massive drive to accelerate the exportation of nontraditional agricultural crops, particularly fruits. The Phili-pines is at present concentrating on Japan to absorb the bulk of fruits exports next year. He said negotiations are expected to be finalized before June to pave the way for papaya, mango and other fruit exports. He said the fumigation system applied on these fruits will be revised to suit the Japanese requirements. He added that government will continue to ask the Japanese Government to further reduce the tariff rates for Philippine bananas. Last year the rates were slashed from 45 percent (on-season) and 25 percent (off-season months) to 35 percent and 15 percent, respectively. The government wants the rates lowered to 20 percent and 10 percent.

Import substitution programs will be stepped up to minimize the country's dependence on commodities which may be grown locally. Among the commodities covered by this program are cotton, rubber and cacao.

For the coconut industry, government is banking on the inter-cropping program and raising of livestock animals in coconut areas to augment coconut farmers' income. This strategy will be adopted in view of the uncertainties in international prices of coconut products especially coconut oil.

New incentives: ministry officials also said that new incentives for agribusiness ventures will be introduced to convince the private sector to invest in these ventures. Tanco said that government intervention in private business especially in agriculture will be minimized to spark an agribusiness boom in the country.

A new program, dubbed the integrated agricultural management system, provided by Executive Order 803 will be launched this year to usher the new agricultural setup in the country.

Under this program, provincial governors will be tapped to manage the delivery of agricultural services and programs for their respective provinces. Agricultural production plans will be laid out for each province to prevent duplication of services and projects. Priority crops for planting will be identified for specific areas to assure that production levels will not exceed demand.

Best measure: while the government is planning a host of agricultural programs this year, industry observers see the expansion of nontraditional export crops as the best measure to spur the agricultural economy. This can only be done if government leaves the task of increasing food production and increasing output of other agricultural crops to private sector.

CSO: 4200/310

BRIEFS

OFFICIAL ORDERS INCREASED SECURITY--PC [Philippine Constabulary] Chief Lt Gen Fidel Ramos ordered yesterday tighter security measures in all PC, police and civilian home defense force camps and detachments. The order was aimed at discouraging attacks by dissidents. General Ramos issued the order in the wake of a series of raids, attacks and ambushes on camps and outposts in isolated areas by NPA elements. The general said there is apparently a need for immediate action by the dissidents to make their presence felt and to get much-needed arms and ammunition. The PC chief also ordered intensified intelligence operations in all levels down to the smallest unit, to forestall raids and attack dissident (?bands). [Text] [HK150040 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 14 Jan 83]

ARMY MOBILIZED FOR RAIDERS--Several military units have been mobilized in the highlands of Mabini, Davao del Norte, following a terrorist attack in the town last Wednesday. The raiders numbered about 100 newly-trained members of the New People's Army of NPA. According to Col Dionisio Tan-Gatue, southern Mindanao PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] commander, the young dissidents overran the security force of (Maricor) Logging Company, Mabini Police Station, and the 437th PC Company situated at (Citio la Pinigan), about 1 kilometer away from the town proper. However, only one of the men of the 437th PC Company was injured. Although outnumbered, the soldiers repulsed the NPA raiders. [Text] [HK150822 Manila Domestic Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Jan 83]

PHILIPPINE EXPORT EFFORT SABOTAGED--President Marcos yesterday said there is possible sabotage in the manufacturing of export products, particularly in garments. He said the government is investigating the impact of such sabotage. There have been reports that workers have deliberately caused defective export products, which resulted in the cancellation of overseas orders. The president said if these reports are true, this means that those elements are destroying the jobs of the very workers they pretend to protect. The president said this is a form of economic sabotage the government will not tolerate. [Text] [HK200022 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 19 Jan 83]

THREE NPA MEMBERS KILLED--Three members of an NPA ambush squad were killed in an encounter with government troopers in Cauayan, Negros Occidental. The slain rebels, said to be operating under (Nistor Virelial) alias Commander

(.11ms), were believed part of a terrorist team that ambushed a PC [Philippine Constabulary] patrol. In that ambush last 6 January, two PC officers, three enlisted men and a civilian were killed. The soldiers have been tracking down the ambushers, but it was only this week that they encountered the NPC band a few kilometers from the ambush site. [Text] [OW221237 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 21 Jan 83]

CSO: 4200/310

BRIEFS

TALKS WITH RAJARATNAM, DHANABALAN--The visiting Indian external affairs secretary, Mr Bajpai, has had talks with the deputy prime minister for foreign affairs, Mr Rajaratnam, and the foreign minister, Mr Dhanabalan. They met for about 2 hours at City Hall this afternoon. Mr Bajpai is in Singapore for preparatory talks for the March nonaligned summit in New Delhi. He leaves for India tonight. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Singapore had told Mr Bajpai that at the last nonaligned summit in Cuba, there was no consensus to declare Democratic Kampuchea's seat vacant. This being the case, the status quo prior to the 1979 summit should have been preserved and the Democratic Kampuchea Government should have kept its seat. After the meeting, Mr Bajpai told reporters that only the summit could decide on the question of seating Democratic Kampuchea. [Text] [BK121315 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 12 Jan 83]

GHAZALI, DHANABALAN DISCUSS KAMPUCHEA--The Malaysian foreign minister, Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, flew into Singapore today for talks with his counterpart Mr Dhanabalan. They discussed the question of Democratic Kampuchean representation at the nonaligned summit in New Delhi in March. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the two foreign ministers were strongly of the view that president of Democratic Kampuchea Prince Sihanouk should be at the summit. They felt that the Cuban action at the Havana summit in 1979 declaring the Kampuchean seat vacant was illegal. [Text] [BK141247 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 14 Jan 83]

CSO: 4200/309

WESTERN SAMOA

BRIEFS

NEW PRIME MINISTER NAMED--In Western Samoa, (Tupuola Eti) has been named as the country's new prime minister. (Tupuola Eti), who is leader of the human rights protection party, will be sworn in tomorrow and will head Western Samoa's third new government since the general elections last February. He succeeds Tupuola Efi, whose government was defeated in a vote on his budget when parliament met last week for the first time this year. The announcement of the change in prime ministership followed the meeting between the head of state, Malietao Tanumafili, and (Tupuola Eti) and Tupuola Efi. [Text] [BK011326 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Dec 82]

CSO: 4200/310

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS UNITS COUNTER FULRO ACTIVITIES

BK190315 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 27 Dec 82 p 1

[Report by Pham Cao Dinh]

[Text] Conscious of their duty to protect a sensitive region of the father-land--the central highlands--border defense units in Dac Lac, Gia Lai-cong Tum and Lam Dong Provinces, in close coordination with the local security and militia and self-defense forces, have actively carried out guard and patrol activities to ensure political security and social order and safety. In particularly sensitive border areas and areas where the Fulro reactionary elements' clandestine activities have been reported, the border defense combatants have joined the local militia and self-defense units in coping with the Fulro men--such as laying ambushes, detecting their whereabouts, tracking down and capturing them.

Officers and men of border defense posts S17, S33, S41, B05, M71, S83 and others have actively helped consolidate and build lower-level political organizations. They are trusted, loved and supported by the ethnic minority compatriots. Carrying out the "four holds" motto (hold firm to the land, people, operational areas and enemy), they have educated the people in revolutionary duties while, at the same time, seeking ways to divide the bad elements' ranks. As a result, they have obtained satisfactory results in building and defending their operational areas. Their mass-motivation task has helped them win over the hearts of many families whose loved ones have gone over to the bad elements' side. Not a few of these families have called on their sons or brothers to return to the revolution. Some returnees have even turned weapons and documents over to the authorities and been allowed to resume their law-abiding life.

The central highlands border defense units have also actively contributed tens of thousands of workdays to building the local economy, thus helping the compatriots develop production and stabilize their livelihood. Thanks to their assistance, the central highlands compatriots have sold to the state more than 100 tons of paddy beyond the fixed obligatory quotas.

CSO: 4209/187

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

ARTICLE REPORTS ON PARTY ORGANIZATIONS' CONGRESSES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Dec 82 p 3

[Article by Minh Son and Le Van Hai (Haiphong): "Through the Basic Party Organizations Congresses, Phase Two, in Haiphong"]

[Text] To date almost all the basic party organizations of Haiphong city have finished holding their phase-two congresses.

From the preparation of political reports to the holding of the congresses, new characteristics have appeared which illustrate the growing up of the party organizations. Previously, the installations organizing a congress usually brought their reports to higher echelons for approval and advice. This time the comrade secretary and party committee of the upper echelon went down to study the realities in the installations before contributing ideas. Regarding the seven suburban and three urban districts, the comrade secretary, together with the standing committee of the city committee and core cadres of various sectors went down to listen directly and contribute ideas to economic-social projects. This action helped the higher committee echelon to understand better the situation of the localities, contribute concrete, sound ideas, develop various strong potentials, and solve the problems posed by the installations in a timely manner. The committee echelon criticized itself seriously. The political reports, along with pointing out achievements, paid attention to carefully analyzing shortcomings and weaknesses in order to determine measures to overcome them and to identify the responsibilities incumbent upon each rank, sector, and person.

The process of making preparations for the congresses is one in which the installations consider the available potentials and discuss working measures, creating bases for the masses to believe that the objectives set forth by the congresses were realizable.

Prior to holding the basic congresses, the precincts and districts found out the key links on which work in order to insure realization of plan standards. Regarding agricultural production they focused on uniformly solving measures of intensive cultivation: water, seeds, and fertilizers. A few months prior to the congresses, Tien Lang District mobilized thousands of persons to dig up 6,000 cubic meters to build embankments to perfect agricultural irrigation.

Regarding organization, the core cadres of installations and districts who were deemed incapable, unqualified, and not trusted by the people were replaced prior to the congresses.

The content of the congresses was practical and concise, focusing on discussing the concrete measures aiming at carrying out political tasks, pointing out the potentials to be developed, and criticizing tendencies of depending upon or waiting for action from upper echelons. The congresses developed the spirit of self-reliance and self-strengthening, heightened the determination that by 1984 they, themselves, would be able to balance their grain needs with their planned standards of rice yield, which would rise 6 tons of paddy per hectare in 1982 to 8 to 9 tons of paddy per hectare in 1985; and by 1985 aim at 80 percent of suburban farming families having brick and tile houses.

Facing the present difficulty of shortages of material supplies and raw materials, the congresses of party organizations of factories recapitulated these shortcomings: They have not fully developed the available potentials in machinery, equipment, and workers' working skills; in regard to the spirit of implementation, there still is a lack of seriousness vis-a-vis the policies and regulations of the party and state as to production, business, handing products to the state, thriftiness, and so forth.

Reports at the congresses focused on setting forth measures aiming at implementing their resolutions in strict accordance with the spirit of the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress.

The election of new committee echelons also demonstrated obvious progress. Prior to the opening of the congresses of basic party organizations, their economic-social projects were presented for discussion in party chapters and among the people. A question was posed to party members and representatives of the masses, "Referring to the defined tasks, in our unit who deserves to be secretary, who deserves to be cooperative director, and who should be elected into committee echelons?" Higher organizations gathered the contributed ideas to study as a basis for the selection and ranking of cadres.

A number of comrades who had not gained the confidence of party members and the people voluntarily withdrew their names from the slates of candidates and recommended or running for the new committee echelons. Twenty-four percent of committee echelon members were replaced, including 20 secretaries, 60 standing committee members, 90 basic party members, most of them due to incompetence and a few of them due to shortcomings or violating discipline. The election of committee echelons at the congresses were guaranteed to be democratic. Compared to initial projections, only half of the projected number of cadres presented to the congresses as candidates for election into committee echelons was selected.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

STRENGTHENING PARTY CONTROL—(VNA) Recently, the party Central Committee Control Commission held a conference in Hai Hau District (Ha Nam Ninh) to draw experiences from party control at the basic level. Key control cadres from provinces and cities north of Binh Tri Thien attended the conference. Tran Kien, party Central Committee secretary, told the conference about the positions, goals, requirements and fundamental meaning of the decision to extend party control down to the basic level and to individual party members. The conferees exchanged views on party control at basic party organizations; considered setting up a leadership system subject to control, especially regarding the process of carrying out political activities and building clean, stable and strong district party organizations. They defined the responsibilities of party committee echelons and party members toward party control; and pondered over the organization and tasks of party control committees at the basic level, in light of the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress and the results of party control at basic party organizations.

[Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Dec 82 p 4] 9213

CSO: 4209/147

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

STRONG TAX COLLECTION MEASURES TAKEN IN HO CHI MINH CITY

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 Dec 82 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Huynh: "Ho Chi Minh City Associates Collection of Industrial and Commercial Tax With Market Management"]

[Text] The city has just taken a number of measures to improve industrial and commercial tax collection, in association with private trade transformation and market management. Tax collection for September and October posted a moderate increase, nearly equal to 20 percent of the year's norms. But the total for the first 10 months of the year amounted to less than 70 percent, although it already represented a 2.5 times increase over last year's same period.

Nearly one-half of municipal tax bureaus have realized below normal collections. The main reason is that the industrial and commercial tax sector has not properly carried out educational, economic and administrative measures simultaneously; and especially, it has not associated tax collection with market management.

Recently, business and production installations have developed fairly rapidly. Tens of thousands of households have joined the food and beverage sectors, doing business as cooperatives, federations, consignment stores, or business installations jointly run by organs, enterprises and mass organizations.

State commerce has opened many new retail centers, but it has not been able to master the market. Meanwhile, tax collection and market management in many municipal precincts are still weak, either working with reduced efficiency, or overlooking many instances on which tax should have been levied. Just over 60 percent of registered collective installations in the city pay tax, versus 40 percent for precinct 8, 57 percent for precinct 3, and 53 percent for Hoc Mon and Phu Nhuan Districts. Delinquency often takes place at installations which produce as well as sell their products. In allowing delinquencies to occur, many units were the cause of losses to the budget, and failed to play the role as income regulator and ensure justice in the tax obligation.

Many places have not applied tax regulations in a satisfactory and strict manner to make tax collection consistent with tax policy, and to encourage production. Especially, they have not patiently explained that tax payment is an important obligation with which producers and business people must strictly

comply. Likewise, the tax sector has not promptly discovered negative manifestations in a number of production units and consumer cooperatives, nor has it put these installations back on the right track.

Although business and income taxes are a major collection source in the private production and business sector, the names of tens of thousands of persons--most of whom work at food and beverage installations or provide services--have not been, until recently, included on tax rosters. In 1 precinct, inspectors have discovered nearly 1,000 missing names of households newly engaged in business or unregistered for business.

A number of cadres and tax collectors are inclined to conceal some of their collection sources with a view to receiving low norms, less hard work and more opportunities to fulfill assigned plans, ahead of schedule.

While levying a tax on occasional trade, many stations have limited themselves to checking the signatures of traders who come to the office to report their business. Overall, in recent days, a big effort has been made in industrial and commercial tax collection; however, it has not become an effective tool for the state to manage economic activities, especially production and business activities in collective, individual and private economic sectors. To overcome delinquency, the municipal industrial and commercial tax sector has firmly directed its activities toward newly issued policies and positions. As a result, tax collection has improved, contributing to thwarting negative manifestations, rationally regulating private traders' income, and fostering business development in the right direction. The immediate task for the tax sector is to reorganize promptly basic installations, appoint more capable and dependable cadres as chiefs of tax stations at communications centers, and build a more adequate system of responsibilities.

Tax cadres in charge of control of production and sale of products, accounting, and financial transactions at production and business installations, have discovered the implication of many units in tax evasion and fraud. Binh Thanh District has discovered and brought to justice instances of violating contracting procedures and using invoices illegally. The tax sector has also collected over 80,000 dong from a team working in plastic production which was found guilty of recording sales on 10 invoices torn off from a main book with a view toward evading taxes. A number of cooperative installations and weaving teams in precincts 3 and Tan Binh and Thu Duc Districts were ordered to pay back taxes, amounting to nearly 7 million dong. They were charged with abusing the name of a collective production installation in buying hundreds of tons of yarn from export and import corporations for resale, or for distribution to cooperative and team members for profit. Thu Duc District has found a number of "phony" production and business installations, posing as "new" business organizations, guilty of collecting hundreds of thousands of dong from a number of unlawful trading households. Besides, the district has collected tax from nearly 3,000 middle and small traders, who have paid no, or very little, tax.

The tax branch has also coordinated with such sectors concerned as the federation of small industry and handicraft cooperatives, consumer and marketing cooperatives, communications and transportation, industry, etc., to solve

misunderstandings about tax assessment, and to discuss with tax paying installations how to collect tax in line with realities. Tax levied on consumer and marketing cooperatives has increased nicely--a fourfold increase compared with last year's same period. A number of installations have managed the collection of transportation taxes with success by basing computation on the number of vehicles, amount of trade and overhead. In recent days, tax collected from collective installations has also increased nicely, thus encouraging a number of installations to move in the right direction.

Regarding the individual production and business sector, tax units have coordinated closely with sectors concerned to conduct a comprehensive review of collection sources, adding nearly 10,000 households to tax rosters, classifying households, and readjusting tax liabilities for middle and small households (a 50 percent increase compared with last year's same period). Along with wards, villages and mass organizations, tax collection units have properly carried out their work, in association with that of business registration and market management.

Recently, precincts and districts have also conducted inspections to readjust and classify tax liabilities, and strengthen market management at markets. Go Vap District has consolidated open-air and sidewalk markets into regular ones, and organized buying and selling activities inside commodity units and sectors. An Nhon, Xom Moi and Thong Tay Hoi markets have been placed under ward management. All of this caused a good impact on market management which, in turn, created favorable conditions for tax collection management. So far, precincts 3, 4 and 10 and Go Vap District have basically completed the issuance of business registration licenses.

The tax sector has also rearranged the network of stations in charge of collecting occasional trade tax, dropping a number of stations located along highways which have restricted the flow of goods, and defining concretely the duties of inspection units and mobile control units. And, with the gradual absorption of collection of occasional trade tax by major stations at communications centers, tax controllers have been able to discover many instances of violating tax regulations and market management procedures, as well as of speculation and smuggling.

Along with fighting poor collections, the tax sector has also exempted many installations from paying tens of thousands of millions of dong in tax, including contract production installations, state organs, units which need to invest in building material and technical bases for expanded production, and units which operate on a low-profit basis.

9213
CSO: 4209/148

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

MEASURES TO IMPROVE TAX COLLECTION IN HAIPHONG DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 Dec 82 p 2

[Article by HH: "Haiphong: Five Measures Against Poor Collection of Industrial and Commercial Tax"]

[Text] In 1982, Haiphong was assigned an increase in industrial and commercial tax collection norms--73 percent over 1981, and 350 percent over 1980. As of October, the city has collected 80 percent of the year's norms. Notwithstanding, the amount of tax collected was still low, compared with the realities.

In the past few years, small industry and handicraft production (in the form of cooperative units) and free circulation of goods have developed in a fairly complex fashion. Over 17,000 persons (not including cadres and workers who work by day for the state and open stalls by night to sell goods) have regularly taken part in the circulation of goods on the free market; but, so far the city has issued licenses to over 10,700 persons and 238 cooperative units, out of 325 registered ones. After wards and districts were assigned the task of collecting tax, a number of new economic organizations--such as subward marketing cooperatives--appeared and entered the circulation field. These cooperatives employed small traders on occasional commercial trips to other provinces to buy and barter supplies and goods. Many goods then under exclusive state control were shipped from one locality to another, slightly upsetting the market and making tax collection more difficult. The situation was promptly discovered by the financial, banking and commercial sectors, which petitioned party committee echelons and administration officials at all levels for corrective measures. Instantly, the situation took a turn for the better. Tax collection was carried out regularly, and simultaneously with market management, in order to overcome delinquency. Eleven units in the municipal tax branch operated in a fairly smooth manner; they capably selected the right targets and key spots, and took prompt measures of control and prosecution. Absolute tax value has increased, in keeping with the increase in business income of producers and traders. The entire tax branch collected 7 million dong in September, and 9.4 million dong in October. In 9 months, Ngo Quyen Ward collected an average 912,000 dong a month; but, in October it attained 1.4 million dong; similarly, Hong Bang Ward advanced from 1.3 million to 2 million, and Le Chan Ward from 1.2 million to 1.8 million dong, etc. In 1980, the average municipal tax for an independent trader was 86 dong; in 1981, it reached 151 dong, and in the first 9 months of 1982, 220 dong. This increase

in absolute tax money was caused, partly by price fluctuations, but also by the efforts of tax managers and collectors. The number of personnel has not increased compared with last year; however, these financial cadres observed taxpayers more closely, and worked more strictly and conscientiously. Their enthusiasm also came from a new management system, the participation of wards and districts in tax collection, the introduction of a flat income tax rate, and the allocation of more revenue to local budgets.

From these experiences, the Haiphong tax branch has drawn the five following lessons:

--Concentrate on major sources of revenue, encompassing taxpayers involved in both production and circulation. Tax cadres must regularly stay close to their targets, keep close tabs on their businesses, correctly set tax tables for each commodity, each target, and each time period, and they must do their work orderly and strictly. A collection process begun amid clarity, fairness and justice is an important factor in mobilizing producers and traders to fulfill their tax obligation with enthusiasm. As for income tax, the tax sector has promptly collected over 1.5 million dong from cooperatives, therefore averting stagnation and procrastination, with tax payments put off from one quarter to another.

--Strengthen market (and production) management in order to collect tax. The tax sector cannot do this alone. Instead, a close coordination among sectors, and especially the guidance of party committee echelons and administration officials at various levels, is needed.

--Keep close tabs on individual businesses, reassess business income every quarter and every month, in order to reassess tax levels appropriately. Tax collectors must closely comply with public opinion, carefully study, observe, control and assess in order to ensure taxpayer acceptance. They must not display rightist tendencies or tolerance toward tax cheaters who deliberately conceal their income seeking to lower their tax. In the first 9 months of this year, Haiphong has readjusted the tax liabilities of 12,306 households, leading to a 1.3 million-dong increase in tax--2.8 million more than the previous year's figure.

--Strengthen control of the flow of goods, of occasional and long-distance trade, especially of key spots on the north-south railway and at sea communications centers. In the past few months, large-scale trade in supplies and raw materials has decreased, following a municipal decision to prohibit traders and subward marketing cooperatives from engaging in north-south trade, and also following an increase in activities of the tax sector.

--Pay attention to control and internal management from upper echelons down to grassroots level. The tax sector has discovered 56,000 dong in uncollected tax --either overdue in payment, or not levied on taxpayers--forcing it to take confiscatory measures. It has also discovered and promptly prosecuted 24 bad tax cadres on charges of not delivering collected tax money to the treasury, or of holding it as "private business capital." These actions have increased the people's trust, gradually purified the ranks of tax cadres, and strengthened the tax mechanism from the tax branch down to stations and units.

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

PROFITEERING AT VAN LANG PARK, HO CHI MINH CITY DESCRIBED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 21 Nov 82 p 3

[Article by Tran Quang Thinh: "Profiteers' Business Site at a Park in Daytime," excerpt from article: "Clinging to the Activities and Traces of the Profiteers That Sabotage the Economy: From the Black Market to the Gold Smuggling Network" of SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese, issues of 9 and 10 November 1982]

[Text] Only by Understanding Saigon of the Past....

The shop now has very old furniture and is deserted. On the sign, the words "Le Petit Papillon" ("The Small Butterfly"), can still be read, though it is turning almost white and losing its paint by chunks. Prior to the liberation day, "The Small Butterfly" was "glorious for a time," as a famous "bonds market" for businessmen. Located close to the wharves adjacent to a series of river front warehouses, and right in the center of the offices of industrial factories, agencies of import and export in all the 18 sectors, and maritime agencies, and, especially, right behind the National Bank, "The Small Butterfly" shop was an animated place of daily gatherings of "salesmen," the ears and eyes of businessmen. This free market existed "parallel" with the official market of the puppet authority. The salesmen competed in controlling the situation of import and export goods, mainly imports and AID goods, such as securing information regarding categories, quantities, ship arrivals, and then on the basis of market demands, they monopolized the trading by hiding goods at will, distributing goods to markets when profitable, and lowering and raising prices as they wished. It was also a place where "brokers" sold warehouse secrets and even copies of ship departure and arrival lists and "factures proforma" (lists of arriving import goods).

At that time, "The Small Butterfly" was also a source of the price of goods for Saigon and Cholon, mainly the daily price of black market gold and other goods. All of the big or small jewelry shops throughout the city had to send someone there for prices before opening for business.

Nowadays, for "The Small Butterfly" shop the good times are over. The reason is not because the black market is nonexistent now, but because the location is disadvantageous. Import goods are not numerous. Moreover, it is impossible to gather for illegal business in a coffee shop now. The business army is thinly spread out in the large and small flea markets in the city.

... Can We Understand Van Lang Market

Gradually, they found a convenient place from which to establish the "headquarters." This is Van Lang Public Park, a triangular spot located between Hung Vuong and An Duong Vuong streets of Precinct 5. Thus Van Lang market appeared. Goods in stock are very attractive targets for traders, smugglers and flea marketers. Van Lang Park is the very center of a world of warehouses, including large, small, state, private, hidden, exposed, old and new warehouses, which have emerged since the reforms; they are so countless and in such disorder that in some cases even the custodians and managers are unaware of what is stored inside. The second advantage is that it is near the main markets of the city: An Dong, Binh Tay and Hoa Binh. The third advantage: A public park is a place where people can gather as coffee drinking customers, "sportsmen," walkers, enjoyers of fresh air or tree admirers in the morning, afternoon or evening. Thus people can gather in the park or easily spread out into the surrounding shops and houses.

Another extremely important advantage: Van Lang lays at the center of the area of gold accumulation! If previously someone called the south the gold valley of Southeast Asia, then Saigon-Cholon must be a small valley in the great one. The lowest spot in this small valley must be the Cholon area! Van Lang market is the metamorphored reincarnation, the product of the "Small Butterfly" black exchange market for certificates and foreign currency, with the business style and methods "copied" from ancient time.

However, besides Van Lang market, "The Small Butterfly" also gave birth to other "pocket" markets here and there. Along Nguyen Cong Tru Street, toward the National Bank, there still are "field" coffee shops with groups of well-dressed people wearing sunglasses and gold-plated Parker pens in their pockets. And on one side of the bank is the foreign currency exchange funds on Ton That Dam Street, for persons having relatives living abroad, where everything renegible is for sale. Gold, foreign currencies, smuggled goods from the ships of foreign countries, and so forth, are what they pursue daily.

Two Categories of People Come to the Park

Van Lang public park. The small coffee shops on the sidewalks, in the houses bordering them, and beneath the trees have all become crowded with customers in groups of five or seven conversing animatedly. Don't think that they are just common coffee drinkers and that the conversations are just chit-chattings. Many among these people are "businessmen" at this ghostly Van Lang market. They are of two groups. Persons in one group loiter all day in the area moving from one shop to another; sometimes they sit in groups of two or three on stone benches or squat along the curbs as if they are leisurely passing their time watching the sky and chit-chatting. It could be correct to call them middlemen. In many exchanges, they just "introduce or link" the purchasing and selling sides. They can also be called head men because at times they personally do the buying and selling. They are important "personalities" at Van Lang. They are aware of market prices extremely quickly. The other group includes subordinates in charge of securing and comparing prices, serving first-link markets and large commercial zones in the city.

Phung A Tai showed me an adolescent with long hair and untidy clothing. I recalled: He is in charge of circulating cigarette prices. As usual, every morning at the corner of Vo Di Nguy and Ham Nghi Streets, Precinct 1, a woman waits right at the bus stop. She does not wait for a bus because several buses passed by, but she is still there. Suddenly a Honda being driven at a high speed stops close to the curb in front of her. The driver is an adolescent with long hair. He hands her a small piece of paper, utters a few words then drives on. The woman walks rapidly into the market. The piece of paper is a cigarette price list. Only then does the cigarette market open. Prior to this, merchants just sit and wait or sell one or two packs for form's sake, whereas real business or sales must wait for...prices from Cholon...Van Lang.

Of course, at Van Lang market there are no cigarettes...only prices. It can be said that here people bargain, sell and buy anything from...gold to cheaper goods although, generally speaking, no one sees anything displayed, such as sugar, milk, monosodium glutamate, coffee, wheat flour, chemicals, soda, yeast, copper, brass, iron, steel, and so forth, any goods that can be profitable to flea and black marketers, any goods whose prices vary unpredictably. Professionals in the field smell price fluctuations, taking advantage of all circumstances to speculate and make a profit. Is wheat flour saturating the city market? Then the Van Lang flea market temporarily postpones the flour "business." However, whenever there is sign that wheat flour stocks are going to be depleted and that the next stocks will take some time before arriving at the harbor, wheat flour immediately becomes an outstanding item. Middlemen and merchants compete in buying, in raising prices, in gathering and hiding the goods, etc.

The Local ["General Information"] Office

There is no shortage of information on goods and storage conditions in a number of factories and commercial corporations at Van Lang market. Maybe we need a complete investigation to be able to uncover all the information networks on warehouses, unloading areas, and so forth, maneuvers to steal goods by hook or by crook, backward aspects, and countless other shady things.

Complying with black market laws, this place has given birth to something like a "general information" comprehensive office with overt "representatives." Phung A Tai and Lu Dan have told me about them. To trade iron, steel, brass or copper, it is necessary to "relate" with old Ly Tam; to trade chemicals, with "contractor" Thieu Chay; electrical items, with Tieu Hang; sugar, milk and monosodium glutamate, with Bach Thong. They sit there daily, and it seems that they do not care about hiding their names and the goods they are "in charge of," because there is no proof here. What must be kept secret is the "C.O.D." place. In order to insure safety, they always carefully screen customers. They do not trade with just anyone. There must be trustworthy information. Therefore, except for the trading parties, it is almost impossible for a third party to notice or be aware of these "personal" transaction....

No outsider can doubt that this is a "kingdom" of smugglers. Of course, we must not let it survive.

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

MARKET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DEFINES NEW TASKS

BK181445 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Dec 82 pp 1, 4

[VNA report]

[Text] The Central Committee for guidance of market management [Ban Chir Daoj Quanr Lys Thij Truwownf Trung Uwowng] has recently met to discuss plans for organizing the implementation of the regulations on penalties against speculation, smuggling, the manufacture of counterfeit goods, and illegal businesses, and for strengthening socialist trade and market management.

The committee pointed out a number of tasks to be carried out as follows:

--We must strengthen the socialist trade force in all respects, enhance the management of socialist property, and improve the quality of service and the efficiency of business in the trade sector by seriously implementing decision 146 on revising and amending decision 25/CP and decision 64/CP of the council of ministers regarding product deliveries. Simultaneously, all state-operated trade sectors must adopt practical and concrete policies and measures to concentrate the bulk of other sources of goods. They should expand and improve their wholesale and retail operations and services, thereby ensuring that supplies and goods meet quality standards and are directly distributed to production units and consumers in the right quantity and at state-set prices. They must make public distribution standards to enable the masses to supervise their work, and to do away with negative phenomena in state-operated trade units. They must take measures to plug loopholes which may allow goods in the organized market to be siphoned off to the free market. They must consolidate the marketing cooperatives, especially in the south, and readjust the operations of marketing and consumer cooperatives to make them proceed in the right direction. By all means the state-operated trade sectors must reduce circulation costs, enhance business and service efficiency, and increase the competitiveness of socialist trade in the market. State agencies and enterprises and collective economic organizations must continuously step up their struggle against negativism, for the protection of socialist property, and for an end to the embezzlement of state property and the siphoning of state-owned supplies and goods to the free market under any form.

--We must restore order on the organized market. The Ministry of Home Trade must take the initiative in holding discussions with the ministries and sector

concerned and submit reports to the council of ministers standing committee so that the committee may make decisions on readjusting the division of business operations among various sectors to make them more rational and on readjusting the division of business management responsibilities among the district, city and precinct authorities, as well as on reorganizing the trade business and service of various business organizations and collectives. This is aimed at putting an immediate end to competition in buying and selling and in import-export operations, which causes market prices to rise, and at organizing the exchanges of supplies and goods among the economic bodies and among the localities in strict accordance with the regulations of the council of ministers. Those economic and social organizations not vested with the function of carrying out trade and service business in the market must not do so. The general rear service department should reorganize the system of supplying daily life's necessities to soldiers and cease its trade activities, which are incompatible with the armed forces' functions.

--We must suppress criminals such as speculators, smugglers, producers and dealers of fake goods, and embezzlers, saboteurs and pilferers of socialist property. Any organization or individual who breaks the law must be punished. We must seek out and severely punish perpetrators of serious crimes and embezzler ringleaders. These tasks must be carried out regularly and continually.

--We must strictly control import-export operations, prohibit private individuals from engaging in import-export business, and strictly control traders at the border areas. On the basis of ensuring the right of the central government to administer, through the Ministry of Foreign Trade, centralized management of import-export operations, we must effect a rational division of work and decentralization to allow various sectors and localities to carry out import-export activities in an orderly manner and according to regulations. The receipt of goods and money from foreign countries outside the socialist system must be carried out in strict accordance with the state's decisions.

--We must restore law and order in the free market and urgently and seriously carry out business registration, allowing no organization or individual to engage in trade and service business without permission, or to do business in the kinds of goods or in the area forbidden to them. We must regulate, guide, control and supervise the registration of trademarks and absolutely suppress counterfeit goods. We must also regulate, control and supervise the implementation of the price posting system, and must punish anyone who sells above the posted prices. We must absolutely unify the tax collection services; regulate, control and supervise the implementation of the system of opening accounts with the state banks; and organize and manage marketplaces, especially those in cities, towns, townships and border areas.

--We must devise plans to step up the socialist transformation of private capitalist trade and to organize and manage small traders, first in the sectors dealing in important kinds of goods and in important areas, then expanding into other sectors and areas. We must closely combine building with transformation work.

Concerning the guidance of the implementation of the various decrees on taking administrative measures against speculation, smuggling, the manufacture of counterfeit goods, and illegal businesses, the decree on promulgation of the regulations regarding trademark registration, and the circular providing guidance in the management of various kinds of goods, all sectors and localities should carry out a number of immediate tasks as follows:

They must announce a timetable for business organizations and businessmen to continue registering their businesses and must set a time limit for the issuance of business permits. After this deadline, any organization or individual who carries out trade or service business without a permit or in variance with the content of their permits will be considered to be illegal businesses.

They must suppress a number of dangerous criminals engaged in speculation, smuggling, the manufacture of counterfeit goods and illegal businesses.

They must compel all organizations and individuals engaged in trade and service business and all stores and shops to post the prices of their goods and to sell them at these prices.

They must continue to readjust the tax scales of households belonging to categories A and B and must struggle against the undercollection of taxes.

They must broaden the control of import-export activities in the border areas.

The committee requested that all ministries and sectors bring into full play their role as the administrators of centralized management of the administrative and economic affairs of their organizations throughout the country, and that they carry out and guide the reorganization of production and business as well as the building and socialist transformation of their branches of business nationwide. The committee is responsible for regulating the coordination among the various ministries and sectors. Simultaneously, it will lead, guide and control the provincial and city committees which provide guidance in fulfilling the task of strengthening socialist trade and market management according to a unified plan and to the targets set for each specific period of time.

CSO: 4209/187

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL GOODS IN HO CHI MINH CITY INCREASED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Dec 82 p 1

[Article: "Ho Chi Minh City Thoughtfully Supplies Essential Goods to Workers, Civil Servants:]

[Text] The commercial and grain sectors and the Federation of Trade Unions in Ho Chi Minh City have just held a joint meeting to sign an agreement to seek measures to ensure the best supply of consumer goods to workers and civil servants; to expand the retail network so as to serve laborers properly; and to urge workers and civil servants to work in concert with other economic sectors to strengthen proletarian dictatorship in the arena of distribution and circulation. The agreement stipulates that the commercial sector must consult with trade unions at corresponding levels in case steps are taken to change supply standards and commodity selling prices. Goods subject to quota supply must come in sufficient quantities, meet quality requirements, and must be distributed to proper destinations, promptly and conveniently.

The municipal federation of trade unions will collect the views of workers and civil servants on commodity purchases, management and distribution; strengthen the guidance of worker control units; and take part in commodity distribution, with focus on essential goods. The trade unions will also educate workers and civil servants to understand clearly the situation and tasks of the city and the entire nation; mobilize the people to emulate the stepping-up of production, raise labor productivity; improve product quality; lower production costs; fulfill plans, and deliver products to the state in sufficient quantities.

9213

CSO: 4209/147

MINISTER SENDS LETTER COMMENDING AREAS FOR RICE PRODUCTION

Hanoi NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese 5 Oct 82 pp 1, 3

[Article: "The Agriculture Minister Sent a Letter Commending 9 Provinces, 19 Districts and Cities, 139 Cooperatives and Agricultural Production Groups for Their Rice Production Achievements in the 1981-82 Winter-Spring Crop Production"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] Recently the agriculture minister sent commendation letters to 9 provinces, 19 districts and cities, 139 cooperatives and production groups for their rice production achievements in the 1981-82 winter-spring crop production.

The content of the letter stresses: /"In the 1981-82 winter-spring rice crop production, although in many localities weather conditions were unfavorable at times, and although in spite of much effort, there were many weaknesses in the supply of materials, the localities and installations developed their self-support and strengthened spirit, strongly advanced product contracts with laborers, and satisfactorily implemented many intensive cultivation measures, thus achieving many successes and over-quota completions, surpassing the previous winter-spring crop production in productivity and output....

"The ministry warmly commends the achievements of the local cadres and people and hopes that they continue to develop the achievements and experiences gained in order to achieve greater successes in the autumn and in future crop productions."/

The following provinces, districts, cooperatives and production groups received commendation letters from the minister of agriculture:

The 9 provinces which reached a productivity of 30 or more quintals of paddy per hectare: An Giang, Dong Thap, Thai Binh, Hai Hung, Phu Khanh, Tien Giang, Hau Giang, Quang Nam-Da Nang, and Ha Nam Ninh.

The 19 districts and cities which reached a productivity of 40 or more quintals of paddy per hectare: Dan Phuong (Hanoi), Hai Hau, Xuan Thuy (Ha Nam Ninh), My Van (Hai Hung), Dong Hung, Kien Xuong (Thia Binh), Cho Moi, Phu Tan, Phu Chau, Chau Phu, Chau Doc, Chau Thanh, and cities of Long Xuyen (An Giang), Cai Lay, Cai Be (Tien Giang), Krongana (Dac Lac), Ke Sach (Hau Giang), Dai Loc, Dien Ban (Quang Nam-Da Nang).

The 139 cooperatives and production groups which reached a productivity of 50 or more quintals of paddy per hectare:

Twenty-three cooperatives in Ha Nam Ninh Province

Fifteen cooperatives in Thai Binh Province

Eight cooperatives in Hai Hung Province

Six cooperatives in Ha Noi City

Three cooperatives in Gia Lai-Kon Tum Province

Two production groups in Kien Giang Province

Three cooperatives in Dac Lac Province

One production group in Ben Tre Province

Two cooperatives in Nghia Binh Province

Six cooperatives in Phu Khanh Province

Thirty-eight cooperatives and production groups in An Giang Province

Two production groups in Hau Giang Province

Two cooperatives in Hai Phong City

Twenty-eight cooperatives in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province

Among the cooperatives receiving the commendation letters were 22 cooperatives that reached a productivity of 60 or more quintals of paddy per hectare, of which 20 reached between 55 and 59 quintals of paddy per hectare.

Especially, in Xuan Thuy District, Ha Nam Ninh, Xuan Tien cooperative reached an average productivity of 69.77 quintals of paddy per hectare, and Xuan Kien cooperative reached 63.55 quintals per hectare. In Hai Hau District, Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Bac cooperative reached 63.02 quintals per hectare. In Ha Noi City, Minh Khai cooperative, Hanoi Duc District, reached 59.02 quintals per hectare. In Quang Nam-Da Nang Province, Dai Phuoc cooperative, Dai Loc District, reached 80.04 quintals per hectare, and Dien Tho cooperative 3, Dien Ban District, reached 70.00 quintals per hectare.

8418

CSO: 4209/121

AGRICULTURE

WATER SITUATION IN NORTHERN PROVINCES SURVEYED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by Tran Hung: "Is There Enough or Not Enough Irrigation Water for the Winter-Spring Crop?"]

[Text] According to the plan, in the 1982-83 winter-spring crop, the northern provinces are to sow and transplant rice on 1,066,000 hectares (representing an increase of 6,000 hectares as compared to last year), to plant 300,000 hectares of food grain secondary crops, over 20,000 hectares of soja bean and broad black bean.

Thus, the acreage that needs irrigation every year will increase. According to the initial determinations of the Meteorology and Hydrology General Department, the water level at the beginning of the growing season was higher than the average level over many years but by the middle of the season or at the end, it fell down to a lower level than during last year's winter-spring crop. By now, the water level in most of the raised dams and reservoirs in North Vietnam and Thanh Hoa Province has reached the planned level. The reservoirs in Nghe Tinh and Binh Tri Thien are still lower than the plan level by 5 to 7 meters. The water level at Thac Ba reservoir is lower than at the same time last year. In January, February and March 1983, the water level in the various branches of the Northern Vietnam rivers may be lower than the average over many years by 10 to 30 centimeters. According to the forecasts, the coldest time will happen at exactly the time of the main sowing and transplanting season. The rainfall level during this winter-spring crop is about average. The guarantee of enough water for the plants is also dependent on our level of management of the irrigation water sources (in those areas where we have water reservoirs to contain the irrigation water), on our irrigation works capacity for drawing irrigation water (in the areas where we draw it using sewers and dams), it also is totally dependent on our supply of electricity (in those areas where we use electric pumps to do the irrigation work). In the northern provinces and Thanh Hoa alone, the acreage using electric pumps comes to half a million hectares. The experience of management of irrigation water exploitation over many years has shown that each winter-spring season there are still over 100,000 hectares of rice paddy affected by those water irrigation systems where we are not yet in full control of the water situation and where we constantly run into drought conditions because of poor management of the water sources. During years when the climate situation is severe, the acreage of rice paddy and secondary crops affected by the drought are even much more serious than that.

Almost half of the rice acreage in North Vietnam is dependent on the power supply situation. What are the electric sector's capabilities for responding to the needs of the present winter-spring crop? The Northern Electric Power Company says that up to now, while the power sources have not been increased the power requirements of various sectors, especially in industry, have increased tremendously. According to the estimates of the company, the various old plants and enterprises have expanded the scale of their production and a number of newly built plants, just put into operation, have a capacity to consume about 20,000 kilowatts. For this reason, the capacity and power production supplied to the needs of this winter-spring crop have come down as compared to last year.

The dredging of mud and sand in the water outlets and in the canals drawing out the high waters is also an extremely urgent task. The mud and sand dredging plan of the Dredger Company No. 1 (Ministry of Water Irrigation) is to dredge more than 1 million cubic meters between now and the end of the first semester of 1983; of this number there is need to dredge about 900,000 cubic meters from the main high water drawing outlets. Only if we accomplish this plan can we insure enough water supply for serving the winter-spring crop. But the supply of diesel oil to the dredgers is still having difficulties.

Thus the study of the situation of the water supply, of the power supply capabilities, and of the situation of mud and sand dredging as described above shows that we are encountering more difficulties supplying irrigation water to the winter-spring crop this year than last year. Nonetheless, if the management of the irrigation water exploitation is realized according to plan, if we put into strict application the principles of management of the water supply exploitation, and if we implement well the motto that both the state and the people work hand in hand, then we can still overcome the difficulties and guarantee enough water for production.

During this crop season, the water irrigation sector advocates the increased management of the irrigation water exploitation, the good management of the water supplies as well as of the power supply, and the implementation of various methods to raise the acreage irrigated by water that runs into it by itself. First of all, one must do well the repair of the machinery and equipment, of power lines and of transformers in the pumping stations; take care of leaking points in the raised dams and in the reservoirs, and repair the sewers and canals that are used to draw water as well as to build more branch canals. In the areas where water is secured naturally, one must enlarge and dig deeper the canals and moats, perfect the system of irrigation canals and of separate drainage canals so as to secure the maximum amount of water fast. In the areas where irrigation is done through sewer systems, one should struggle to capture reserve water into the ponds and lakes at the beginning of the season when the water level is still high, so as to have water to irrigate when the supplies are exhausted. In the case of individual high ground or areas near the end of the canals which permanently encounter difficulties getting irrigation water should have diesel pumping machines and should mobilize the people to be ready at all times with enough scoops and bailing buckets.

The localities are concentrating on doing small irrigation works, on repairing dredging works to take care of the mud and sand near the water receptacle outlets and in the water conduit canals, using both mechanical and manual means. Because we do not have enough power supply, the supply of power for pumping water into fallow fields will be applied on a rotating basis in each province, with the time

devoted to this operation dragged out over two months (from 15 December to 15 February 1983). The coastal provinces and cities such as Hai Phong, Thai Binh, Ha Nam Ninh and Thanh Hoa will be supplied with power for pumping water into fallow fields first, then follow in turn the provinces and cities of Hanoi, Ha Son Binh, Hai Hung, Ha Bac, and Vinh Phu. Even in each province or city we must also put into application the system of rotating supply to each area and irrigate on a rotating basis the various areas one by one so as to guarantee the sparing use of the power supply while effecting good results.

1751

CSO: 4209/112

AGRICULTURE

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON INCREASED VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Dec 82 p 1

/Editorial: "Achieving Vegetable Self-Sufficiency" /

/Text/ Vegetables are a food which cannot be missed from our people's everyday meals. Recently, vegetable production has progressed, even in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and industrial zones, mainly because of improved management and better implementation and correction of policies.

Since vegetable purchase, transportation and distribution have also improved, off-season vegetable supply has not been as uncertain as in previous years.

The movement to grow vegetables is expanding among the people, organs, enterprises and military units, contributing a sizable source of vegetables to society. This does not mean everything is fine. Quite a few problems must be diligently addressed. In state and collective sectors, vegetable processing and storage tend to mark time or decrease. Vegetable areas are being reduced. Crop cultivation patterns in many vegetable areas are not yet rational and stable. Off-season supply of stored processed products is still inadequate and irregular, forcing the laboring people to buy vegetables on the free market at very high prices. This was caused by flaws in leadership, management and in the implementation of policies. Many places still are unable to apply a satisfactory grain policy to vegetable areas, and to set rational purchasing and selling prices for vegetables. If grain is sold to vegetable growers at former supply prices, the state must make big compensatory payments; but, if grain is sold at new prices, vegetable prices will go up accordingly; and, as a result, state-produced vegetables will cost more than privately produced ones on the free market. Sluggish sales of state-produced vegetables will have a negative impact on production. Supplies needed by vegetable areas, such as bamboo, blue-fence bamboo for trelliswork, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, high-grade varieties...will not be sufficiently and promptly supplied. Some vegetable growers, driven by self-serving interest, will bring choice vegetables to the free market for sale in times of vegetable shortage, in violation of contracts signed with the state.

During this year's winter-spring vegetable season, localities, production installations and responsible sectors must review their entire plans for vegetable self-sufficiency, and take steps to remove obstacles and capitalize on new favorable effects on vegetable production, especially those arising from improved management and from new policies.

Our country's climate, weather and land make it easy for us to plant appropriate varieties in all areas and all seasons. Vegetables must be planted in a concentrated fashion in intensive farming areas, and also in a scattered way, so as to meet local consumption needs and keep cheap and stable prices. Big cities and concentrated industrial zones must build their own vegetable food belts in relation to demographic needs. A number of vegetable-growing state-operated installations and cooperatives are required to carry out correctly plans for planting vegetables for export, and for planting high-grade vegetables for seeds which will be supplied to the people in various areas.

One important condition is to have enough seeds for sowing and planting the entire area. Production installations must acquire ordinary vegetable varieties by themselves. The state provides only those varieties which the people cannot produce.

To achieve vegetable self-sufficiency, we must simultaneously solve problems regarding production, purchases, transportation and distribution, and abolish intermediary links and unnecessary procedures, which often lead to delays in producers receiving supplies, and to vegetables being rotten when they reach consumers, unfit to be eaten even by hogs and chickens. Cultivation of off-season vegetables requires a more difficult technique and higher production costs; however, off-season crops yield less than the main ones. Therefore, an appropriate policy is needed to encourage vegetable growers to foster initiatives, enthusiastically produce, process, store and deliver their vegetables to the state in sufficient quantities during preharvest time.

9213
CSO: 4209/146

AGRICULTURE

BUMPER CROP IN HAI HUNG REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Dec 82 p 1

Article: "Hai Hung: 10th-Month Rice Yields Over 31.46 Quintals Per Hectare, 66 Quintals Per Hectare for the Whole Year, Highest Yield Ever Recorded"

Text (VNA) Hai Hung has basically completed harvesting the 10th-month rice, exceeding the plan in terms of area, productivity and volume of production. According to preliminary estimates, the 10th-month rice yield of the whole province has reached 31.46 quintals per hectare, an increased by 2.17 quintals per hectare compared with last year's 10th-month crop. Thus, in 1982, rice yield in Hai Hung has reached over 66 quintals per hectare, an increase by 5.46 quintals per hectare compared with last year; the volume of production has exceeded the plan by 0.6 percent, up over 9 percent from 1981. Nearly all cooperatives in the province have posted rice yields and volumes of production higher than the ones of previous years. Cam Binh, Tu Loc and My Van Districts and Hai Duong City have achieved an yearly rice yield from over 70 quintals to 76.40 quintals per hectare. This year, Hai Hung has recorded unprecedented high figures in terms of rice yield and volume of production.

My Van, with the highest rice yield in the province--76.40 quintals per hectare for the whole year--is a district where many measures were taken to upgrade uniformly the arable land, and to achieve close coordination between 3 production seasons in the year. Nine cooperatives in the province have achieved a yearly rice yield from 8 to 9 tons per hectare; 23 cooperatives have reached a rice yield from 6 to 7 tons per hectare. Gia Tan (Tu Loc), Trai Trang, Nhu Quynh and Lac Dao (My Van) Cooperatives, which have reached a yearly rice yield of over 9 tons per hectare, are the ones with an outstanding track record on intensive rice farming and on winter crop work.

This year, weather conditions have been more favorable, and rice infestation has been less severe, as compared with last year. However, the main reason for the bumper crop is that party committee echelons and administration officials in Hai Hung have concentrated on guidance, especially on a close coordination between party building, the establishment of a new management structure, and the implementation of adequate and synchronized intensive rice farming measures. Hai Hung has successfully created a group of high-yield short-term early 10th-month rice varieties. Except for the 1980 10th-month season, during which productivity was reduced because of

waterlogging, in recent years the early 10th-month rice in Hai Hung has always yielded more than the main 10th-month rice, and this pattern is becoming more and more stable, therefore opening up big prospects for an additional winter crop in the ricefields, and for sowing and transplanting two rice crops in all cooperatives.

9213

CSO: 4209/146

AGRICULTURE

BUMPER CROP IN NORTHERN PROVINCES REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Dec 82 pp 1, 4

[Article: "In the North, Bumper Crop, Productivity Exceeds Plan by 10 Percent; But Grain Difficulties Remain; In the South, 10th-Month Rice Grows Properly, Productivity Higher Than Last year"]

[Text] As of November, nearly all northern provinces and cities have harvested most of their 10th-month rice, at a pace faster than last year's. This year's 10th-month crop enjoyed favorable weather conditions, with 94.4 percent of its area sowed and transplanted at the best time. Areas transplanted with new rice varieties showed a fairly high percentage. The rice was weeded promptly, from two to three times. Average use of organic fertilizer has increased by 1.7 tons per hectare over the last year. Pest prevention and control were carried out properly and promptly.... As a result, the northern provinces' 10th-month crop has surpassed the norms, in terms of area, productivity and gross output.

According to the Statistics General Department, the average 10th-month rice yield has exceeded the plan by 10 percent--up 13.7 percent from last year. Many provinces have achieved fairly high yields; Haiphong suburbs, 32.79 quintals per hectare; Hai Hung, 31.46 quintals per hectare, up 2.17 quintals from the previous 10th-month crop. In nearly all provincial cooperatives, yields and volumes of production are higher than last year's: Thai Binh, 30.80 quintals; Ha Nam Ninh, 26 quintals; Hanoi suburbs, 27.5 quintals, etc.

The localities have sowed and planted 171,000 hectares of vegetables, subsidiary food crops and winter industrial crops, attaining 53 percent of the plan--but 49,000 hectares fewer than the same period last year. Many winter crops, such as corn, sweet potato and soybean, were planted behind schedule; nevertheless, the percentage was lower than last year's. The provinces continue to plant other winter crops on schedule; but, because of variety shortages, they may not be able to plant the entire area. Recent rainfalls caused potatoes, vegetables and beans to rot and break up in a number of areas. Early crops of sweet potato, garlic, tomato and large-seed green beans have developed nicely. Hai Hung Province has planted 780 hectares of garlic more than last year. Since rainfall has damaged vegetable varieties in many areas, basic installations must draw up plans for sowing and planting

early spring-summer vegetables to compensate. The cooperatives are actively nursing crops in planted areas. The localities have completed sowing 5th-month and early spring seedlings, mainly with high-yield varieties. The 5th-month crop hard-plowing area was fewer than last year's by 60,000 hectares. Mechanized plowing accounted for a low percentage. Since many areas were half-wet, half-dry, the cooperatives must clearly determine areas of wet and dry plowing so as to facilitate water removal, skim plowing and duckweed planting.

In the southern provinces, the 10th-month rice has grown rather properly. Many places have harvested the early one. According to preliminary reports, the yield is 20.52 quintals per hectare--equal to 97.7 percent of plan, and to 106.5 percent of last year's 10th-month crop figure. A number of provinces have posted high yields: Cuu Long, 25 quintals per hectare; Tien Giang, 26 quintals; Hau Giang, 24 quintals; and Ho Chi Minh City, 26 quintals. The southern provinces have completed shallow plowing on 245,000 hectares of winter-spring rice at a faster pace than last year, and prepared 108,000 hectares for sowing and transplanting no-care early rice varieties. Long An, Ben Tre and Tien Giang Provinces have achieved fast sowing and transplanting.

The bumper crop notwithstanding, many grain difficulties still remain, especially within the state-operated sector, and in the face of very rapid population increase. This situation requires the entire party and people to exert the greatest effort to step up grain production and carry out properly the task of gathering and handling grain.

9213
CSO: 4209/147

AGRICULTURE

MARINE PRODUCTS SUPPLIES TO HANOI INCREASED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Dec 82 p 1

[Article: "In 11 Months, Marine Products Sector Brings to Hanoi Over 7,000 Tons of Saltwater Fish"]

[Text] In 11 months, the marine products sector has supplied to Hanoi City over 7,000 tons of saltwater fish (converted to be equivalent in freshwater fish), exceeding the year's plan by 16.6 percent; over 6.6 million liters of fish sauce, exceeding the year's plan by 1.1 percent. The sector was ready to supply by 15 December 1982 an additional 1,500 tons of fish in addition to the plan; later, it will supply marine products to Hanoi City in accordance with the 1983 plan. This year, the marine products sector has continuously improved purchasing, receiving and shipping procedures, creating conditions for localities and production installations to sell their products. Aside from purchasing and receiving products from the federation of marine products enterprises (Haiphong), the sector has also organized purchases, reception and transportation from central and southern coastal provinces to Hanoi, and has properly prepared processing and packaging, in order to reduce production costs and ensure the quality of marine products supplied to Hanoi City. Since this past June, the marine products sector has supplied two new commodities--dried flying fish and anchovies.

9213

CSO: 4209/148

AGRICULTURE

CONTRACTS FOR INSURING PEST-FREE AREAS REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Dec 82 pp 2, 4

[Article by Huu Van : "A New Way at Production Installations: Contracts for Insuring Safe, Pest-Free Areas, a Production Serving Formula with Satisfactory Results"]

[Text] In the provinces of Nam Bo, the vegetation protection network has been created to serve agricultural production. To date, along with a regional-level station of the Vegetation Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, 16 provinces and cities from Thuan Hai southward have provincial-level stations. Suburban districts of Ho Chi Minh City and districts of Tien Giang Province finished building their stations. However, there still are many localities having no district-level stations or having just planned to build them. Though, at times, having been consolidated and strengthened, the vegetation protection is still unable to mend tightly such a thin and very "breakable" network. The above situation is essentially caused by the fact that the stations do not have enough specialized cadres and that they do not have regulations and policies on training and maintaining their key forces.

How to build an effective vegetation protection network?

Since the 1981-82 winter-spring crop season, vegetation protection stations of Ho Chi Minh City, Long An, and Tien Giang, on a trial basis, have carried out the procedure of signing crop insurance contracts with production installations and achieved satisfactory results. The contract is now uniformly called, "contract for insuring safe, pest-free areas."

The contract clearly defines the responsibilities of party A (production unit) and of party B (vegetation protection station). Concerning party A, it is to choose and delegate a group of persons (from three to five persons in the case of a village, and one person in the case of a production unit) for professional training by party B; they will thoroughly implement all the conditions advanced by party B and recorded in the contract and accepted by both sides; and appropriate a proper amount of the product (or product value) of the increased yield to award party B. Concerning party B, they will professionally train the persons delegated by the installation to be totally responsible technically, to insure projections, forecasts, and early

discoveries of harmful insects and diseases and guide peasants in using the right insecticides with the correct proportions aiming at keeping harmful pests (if they are harmful) to a minimum (with concrete stipulations for different crops and crop seasons), and to be penalized if the crops suffer pest-related losses. Of the amount appropriated by party A for rewards, party B will use a part as subsidies for the technical personnel in charge of the installation who previously received no subsidies from any echelons or sectors. The Ho Chi Minh City station paid subsidies from 120 to 170 dong per month to each person in charge of installations. This person also received protective equipment comparable to workers who are directly engaged in production at the station. Therefore everyone feels at ease and enthusiastic, and works satisfactorily; and there are additional persons who volunteer to do the specialized technical task of vegetation protection at production installations.

This is a step in creatively applying the 1978 communique of the Ministry of Agriculture on guiding the stations of the sector in the collection of fees for vegetation protection for production installations. However, the fee collection per area unit, though the fee is very nominal (2 dong per hectare and per crop season), is not easy. The implementing of the formula of the contract for insuring safe, pest-free areas with clear articles on reward and punishment has attached the responsibility of each cadre and worker of the station to the end product of the production unit. In Ho Chi Minh City, besides many rewarded contracts there were many cases of punishments in the recent summer-autumn crop season. In the process of organizing to carry out contracts, party B implemented labor and responsibility division concretely, thus requiring that everyone be intensely engaged in his speciality and, consequently, heighten his professional expertise. New scientific research results of scientific research institutions and agriculture colleges...have been introduced into serving production the fastest way. Professional activities serving projections and forecasts in relation to harmful insects and diseases, such as investigations, daily records, and periodical reports (once every 5 days) have stabilized and become satisfactory.

The attachment through contracts created a close link between peasants and the vegetation protection worker. Through on-the-spot, more thorough, and more concrete guidance, the scientific knowledge of pest prevention and eradication and of the principles of insecticide usage has been widely spread to a large number of peasants. The fact that subsidies are appropriated in advance for the rewards has created favorable conditions for the personnel of the district station or agricultural section to stay permanently with the unit entrusted to his service throughout the crop season (about 100 days). Together with the number of persons specially assigned by production units and numerous participating peasants, these workers really created a vegetation protection network efficient right at installations. This is also proof of the implementation of the slogan, "The state and the people work together."

Carrying out the principle of prevention as the main thing, the vegetation protection sector not only focuses directly on the objective of various

harmful insects and diseases but also pays great attention to the ecological elements affecting the crops and to guiding peasants in correctly implementing technological measures of comprehensive, intensive cultivation.

Through the three crop production seasons of 1982, the realization of contracts for insuring safe, pest-free areas has developed from several different methods of action, but it has basically and unanimously been seen that the present formula is most advanced. The achievements affirmed several obvious successes: the vegetation protection network is consolidated and developed; insecticides are used rationally and thriftily; peasants produce with ease of mind. The peasant-supported movement is developing in a wide-spread area from rice crops to many other crops. Many localities have learned from this experience and applied it. However, the movement needs to be reviewed and guided in time in order to avoid the trial-and-error of the initial, spontaneous step, such as different organizations in different localities, different regulations, especially to prevent a biased understanding that can move from the initial aim of serving production to becoming a simple business action for profit. This, the Vegetation Protection Department has pointed out and correctd.

8418
CSO: 4209/160

AGRICULTURE

MEASURES TO INCREASE UNIFORM RICE YIELD DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Dec 82 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Increasing Uniform Rice Yield"]

[Text] In intensive crop cultivation, increasing uniform yield is an important demand that directly affects gross output indexes. The higher the uniform yield, the greater the gross output. A field with uniform yields significantly surpasses one that is good but with uneven yields.

In the recent crop production seasons there have been clear advances in realizing uniform yield. In large areas as well, as in each ricefield, yields of ricefields with similar soil conditions are becoming closer to each other; the discrepancies which were tons of paddy per hectare are now on only quintals. The percentage of ricefields in bad categories has been reduced with ricefields becoming good because of uniform intensive cultivation measures. In recent crop production seasons, the provinces, districts, and cooperatives that reached the highest yields and gross outputs did so mainly because they realize uniform yields; bad ricefields became good ones; good ones became better. However, within each cooperative, production unit, and production group, there still is the phenomenon of nonuniformity of yields with too great discrepancy of tons of paddy per hectare between ricefields with similar natural conditions. This is mainly due to unsatisfactory production leadership and labor management. Too much discrepancy between yields is proof that the local production situation is not stabilized and is presenting problems to be solved. This is also a cause that directly leads to discrepancies between the levels of income, consumption, and obligation implementation of the localities and production units.

Because our country's ricefields are elongated longitudinally with different soil natures and topographies, our agricultural production has clear regional characteristics along with similarities. Therefore, discrepancies of yields between regions are unavoidable. However, under almost similar conditions, we can and must reach similar advanced yields. The initial regional yields that are different will become closer to each other thanks to the reorganization of production, the improvement of the managerial system, and the implementation of the policies that encourage production.

In order to reach a widespread uniformity, the first thing to do is to determine the main causes of the discrepancies and to implement the uniform

measures that overcome these causes. These causes are very dissimilar, depending upon each concrete locality. In certain localities, the yield discrepancy is mainly caused by technological factors, in other localities by managerial levels or by incorrect implementation of regulations or by bad cadres' maneuvers, production persons' lack of labor enthusiasm, and so forth.

In the final analysis, to implement uniform yields it is necessary to carry out more and more intensive cultivation. However, in order to satisfy this demand one must not simply pay attention to the technological aspect only, but also one must carry out a series of measures on leadership, organizational realization, managerial mechanism improvement, and on implementing the policies that encourage production.

First of all it is necessary to try to know the ricefield, to zone, to plan, and to determine the production direction for the areas having similar natural conditions. Carry out basic investigations of natural elements, such as soil nature, climate, weather, hydrology, etc., aiming at reorganizing production, determining regulations on intensive cultivation, crop rotation, and crop addition, and arranging crop organization so as to achieve the highest economic output. Improve the managerial mechanism and that of end-product contracts with laborers. Implement linking technological measures, focusing on the weakest links of each concrete locality. Realities in recent crop seasons showed that a broad implementation of the system of product contracts with laborers is a strong force that can motivate the cooperative member to try to understand, take hold of, and correctly implement intensive cultivation measures, in thrifitly using material supplies, and in achieving the highest economic output.

On the other hand, various ranks and sectors need to pay attention to heightening cadres' agricultural leadership and management, especially concerning cadres of the district and installation echelons, along with providing necessary technological knowledge to cooperative members. Stabilize the contingent of the leading cadres and managerial cadres of various echelons of the localities so as to contribute to increasing rice-field uniformity.

Areas with high output per area unit are usually localities with weak movement and low crop yields, but with much potential for intensive cultivation. If they receive good leadership and assistance, they can speedily increase yields.

To implement widespread intensive cultivation, increasing uniform yields is the most inexpensive way to bring back quick, great results.

8418
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AGRICULTURE

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF PIGS REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Dec 82 p 1

[Article: "Agriculture in 1982: A Drove of 10,784,000 Pigs, an Increase of 2.7 Percent Compared to This Period Last Year. Meat Pigs Sold to the State Increased by 22,000 Tons; Pigs Leaving Pens Increased in Weight. The Doves of Sows Decreased, Breeding Pigs Were in Shortage and Expensive."]

[Text] According to initial statistics from the General Office of Statistics, as of 10 January, provinces and cities nationwide will have 10,784,000 pigs, which, although having achieved only 98 percent of the plan, will increase by 2.7 percent compared to this period last year. Of this number, the north will have more than 7 million, an increase of 3.4 percent compared to this period last year.

This year the nationwide sow drove has 1.52 million only (14 percent of the overall pig drove), an achievement of 79 percent of the plan and a decrease of 1.4 percent compared to the same period last year. There is serious shortage of breeding pigs in many localities and breeding pig prices have become very high. After selling their meat pigs, many families are unable to buy breeding pigs to continue their businesses. However, thanks to consolidating the quality of the sow drove, the suckling pig drove increased by 8.2 percent compared to the same period last year. The meat pig drove with an average below 30 kilograms per pig has 6.19 million pigs (an increase of .9 percent), and pigs above 30 kilograms in pens are 3.01 million, an increase of 9.1 percent. In the north in the meat pig drove the number of pigs with an average of more than 30 kilograms tended to increase from 28.1 percent in 1981 to 31.7 percent.

Compared to the previous year, the quantity and weight of pigs being slaughtered have increased. In the beginning of October, the localities had about 8.4 million pigs left in their pens, a production of 450 tons of meat, an increase of about 20 percent; the average weight of slaughtered pigs is 53.6 kilogram per pig, an increase of almost 3 kilograms compared to the same period of time last year. The localities sold to the state 170,000 tons of meat pigs, almost achieving the plan, an increase of 22,000 tons compared to the same period last year.

At present, the number of pigs of concentrated livestock raising cooperatives is 265,575, achieving 53.1 percent of the plan, a decrease of 5.9 percent

compared with the same period of time last year. It is essentially caused by an unsatisfactory management of food, of which 10 to 15 percent is reserve reserved for livestock-raising. The supply of food for the pig drove, especially that of mixed protein food, has met with many difficulties, consequently the state-operated pig drove only has a little more than 158,000 pigs, a decrease of 88.1 percent compared to the same period last year. The provinces and cities are stepping up closed contracting involving the links of concentrated pig-raising, setting up economic and technological standards for laborers and encouraging strong development of domestic live-stock-raising.

As of 10 January, the whole country will have 10,073,000 pigs, which is 93.4 percent of the general drove, in the domestic zone, an increase of 2.4 percent compared to the same period last year.

In many localities, due attention has not been paid to the prevention and eradication of pests, thus spreading them over wider areas. In 19 provinces and cities, the number of pigs eliminated because of sickness is 354,305, an increase of 14.5 percent compared to 1981, thus causing the pig drove to develop slowly.

8418

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AGRICULTURE

STEPPING UP OF WINTER CROP PRODUCTION URGED

Hanoi NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese 5 Oct 82 p 1

[Article: "Stepping Up Winter Crop Production"]

[Text] Starting winter crop production, turning it into the main crop production in areas of two rice crop seasons in the north is a result of a biological revolution which replaces long-term rice seeds having low output with short-term ones having high output. This is in addition to restructuring autumn rice seeds, stepping up production in the direction of intensive cultivation, and increasing crop seasons aiming at intensively using the available potentials in land, labor, and material and technological bases. Through 10 years of winter crop cultivation, production results confirmed that the policy line, cited above, is totally correct: each crop season produced in addition about half million tons of grain (converted into paddy equivalent), a large quantity of fodder, and a number of valuable agricultural export goods.

The present situation is that along with the direction of actively expanding the cultivated area and applying intensive cultivation in the winter crop season, there is the phenomenon of trying to curtail the winter crop planting area. In a number of areas, it is conceived that due to a shortage of fertilizers, insecticides, etc., labor and material supplies are to be concentrated on intensively cultivating two rice-crop seasons so as to overachieve contracts as much as possible, with insufficient importance attached to winter crop production. In certain areas, people arbitrarily changed crop pattern, replacing a number of grain plants with quick crops with higher profit margin while requiring less work, such as industrial and food crops. Guidance over winter crop production is relaxed. Winter crop production has leveled off or even decreased in certain areas. In recent years, winter crop areas decreased from 300,000 hectares to 263,000 hectares in 1980 and 242,000 hectares in 1981; the average output of many crops also decreased.

This year's winter crop project is more difficult than in previous years, its goal under any circumstances is to strive to cover more than 300,000 hectares with the main crops of grain and food so as to contribute to solving the grain problem in the period between crops in March, and to having sufficient fodder for the livestock.

Winter crop areas must be zoned into specialized and intensive cultivation areas so that winter crop production becomes an important component of the production pattern in the northern provinces. In the new contract system, it is necessary to link the winter crop season to the two rice crop seasons by implementing new contracts regarding the winter crop season, creating favorable conditions for the cultivation of both autumn rice and spring-summer rice. Strict guidance and thorough inspections are needed in winter crop production.

In this year's winter crop season we must overcome a number of concrete difficulties. The number of technological materials supplied mainly by the state is less than in previous years. Many cooperatives do not have enough needs to satisfy the per hectare standards. Also there is a shortage of draft force.

Striving to insure crop patterns in compliance with original plans, especially concerning grain and food crops is necessary. In case of seed shortage, replacement must be made with seeds of the same category, replacing grain seeds with other grain seeds. If there is shortage of seeds of temperate origin such as potato, black pea, etc., let us strive to sow seeds of tropical origin such as sweet potato, maize, soybean, and so forth.

Besides the three food crops (potato, sweet potato, maize), short-term beans can be planted in many stages in winter crop seasons when applying rotation and planting a companion crop or a catch crop overlapping the preceding and the following crop. Bean species, especially soybean, are to be developed actively so as gradually to take the lead among winter food crops.

Let us concentrate various draft forces, mechanical and manual, into soil preparation. When necessary, extensively organize groups and workers for ricefield hoeing.

Doing their utmost, the cooperatives need to insure completion of plans regarding the cultivated areas and crop patterns for this year and to carry out actively intensive cultivation for high gain output, making contributions to the completion of the common production plan of the whole country.

8418

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AGRICULTURE

BEN TRE MAKES PROGRESS IN SOLVING FOOD SUPPLY PROBLEM

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by Xuan Mai (Ho Chi Minh City): "Ben Tre Can Have a Solid Solution to the Food Question"]

[Text] Of the nine Mekong delta provinces Ben Tre is the one encountering the most difficulty in agricultural production, especially in the production of grain.

Before Liberation, the entire province had 90,000 hectares of riceland with only one crop, yielding a very low productivity. The average per capita income in grain was about 150 kilograms of paddy per year. The yearly grain production volume was adequate for the nearly one million population of the province for only six months. Furthermore, after 30 years of war the fields of Ben Tre had also undergone severe destruction with over 30,000 hectares left fallow. For that reason, right after Liberation, in many areas in the province such as the provincial capital, the districts of Giong Trom, Mo Cay, and Ba Tri, a number of people had to eat gruel for all their meals. In 1977 and 1978, the planthoppers damaged consecutively 5 different crops which meant that the cadres and people of Ben Tre encountered many more difficulties as far as grain was concerned, thus necessitating the help and assistance of neighboring provinces and of the central government.

Grain production difficulties have become the number one concern and worry of the cadres and farmers of Ben Tre in the last several years. All the thinking and actions of the entire Party chapter and of the one million population of Ben Tre are above all concentrated on how to get enough grain produced?

Under the light of the central government directives and on the basis of the economic and natural conditions of the province, Ben Tre affirms that it has the capability fully to solve its own grain production problem through crop multiplication, intensive cultivation and land reclamation to increase the acreage on the basis of good irrigation work and the application of technical methods of intensive cultivation and increased plant productivity. At the same time, only when the grain question has been solved satisfactorily can Ben Tre be in the position to promote its strengths in such industrial crops as the coconuts, sugar cane and fruit trees together with fishing and other branches and industries.

In the last few years, both the land and the people of Ben Tre have been concentrated on the grain production front, the number one priority of the province.

The reality of the situation tells us that the four big rivers of Co Chien, Ham Luong, Ba Lai and My Tho, even in the dry season, still carry plentiful amounts of rich silt and freshwater out to the sea. Yet at the same time there is not enough water in the rice fields and the soil gets cracked. During the reverse wind season, saltwater comes in from the sea and follows the rivers and canals to overflow into the ricefields causing acidity to 2/3 of the whole acreage. It is for this reason that in order to boost food production, Ben Tre has no other choice but to irrigate in order to have freshwater and stop the saltwater infiltration. And from there one can improve the soil in the fields and break out of the monoculture mold, practice intensive cultivation and crop multiplication, and increase the plant productivity.

In irrigation, Ben Tre started from the beginning with a very ambitious plan involving a huge amount of work and basically relying on its own capacity. This was because under the American-puppet regime there was not a single irrigation system in the whole province. Small irrigation systems such as sewer systems and dams had all been severely damaged. Fired by the "general uprising" tradition and using its own persistent labor capabilities, Ben Tre had been able to set afoot an eager mass movement for irrigation work. From the very first days of Liberation, the whole province had gone to irrigation sites and dug Canal 9A from Giang Trom to Phu Ngai (Ba Tri), then the South Mo Cay to North Thanh Phu canal and built dozens of electric pumping stations, dug and dammed up hundreds of kilometers of earth so as to stop the saltwater infiltration along the coast along the big rivers and canals and hundreds of small irrigation works in practically every locality. All these works are seeing their usefulness being promoted to serve crop multiplication and intensive cultivation. From the situation of 90,000 hectares of a single rice crop, by now the farmers of Ben Tre have increased the planting area of rice up to 140,000 hectares per year, with a relatively stabilized productivity of 2.5 tons per hectare per crop (before it was only 1.2 tons per hectare).

On the basis of irrigation, Ben Tre has gradually rearranged the acreage devoted to sowing and transplanting so as to make it fit the various crops during the year, thus insuring that each area become a stabilized production area, that each crop become a productive one using short term maturing, planthopper-resistant and high-yield varieties. At the present time there are 90,000 hectares of rice paddies in the whole province, of which 62,000 hectares are found in the two regions of saltwater and mixed water in the districts of Ba Tri, Thanh Phu, Binh Dai and to the south of the districts of Giang Trom and Mo Cay, i.e. in the area where one can have one surefire main crop. Together with the implementation of small irrigation works, the farmers have transformed some acreage into a two-crop short term maturing rice area. The freshwater area belonging to the districts of Cho Lach, Chau Thanh, the provincial capital of Ben Tre and to the north of Giang Trom District includes some 35,000 hectares of land devoted to two crops, the winter-spring one and the summer-autumn one, through the use of short term maturing, planthopper-resistant, and high-yield varieties.

A few years back, when we had difficulties producing grain, Ben Tre already had a relatively forceful movement to grow secondary crops, especially kaoliang. At one point, the kaoliang acreage went up to 25,000 hectares such as during the summer-autumn crop of 1978, thus contributing significantly to the solution of immediate difficulties concerning grain production. In order to have a lot of

grain sources to serve the life of the people and to develop animal husbandry, the farmers of Ben Tre have endeavored to plant from 10 to 15,000 hectares of secondary crops in-between the various rice crops. The structure of secondary crops such as maize, yam and kaoliang, has been rearranged so that it becomes more rational and fits better the soil characteristics of each area. In particular, soja bean has been and is being introduced into the rice fields in many areas of the province, to be grown alternately with the rice plants, thus yielding good initial results and opening up a new possibility of creating a food source for the people's needs as well as for export while contributing to improving the soil for purposes of intensive cultivation and increased rice productivity. The future direction of the province is to introduce 1,000 hectares of soja bean planting into an alternating planting season between the winter-spring and the spring-summer rice crops where one has good sources of irrigation water.

Parallel with such methods to boost grain production, Ben Tre also has made many efforts in the movement for agricultural cooperativization, thus contributing to the farmers' step-by-step collectivization. Especially since the directive 100 of the Party Central Committee Secretariat came out, Ben Tre has consolidated step-by-step the production solidarity teams, the production collectives, and the cooperatives so as to try out the product contracting arrangements in a number of localities, which so far has yielded relatively good results. Thanks to the collective production arrangements and to the new management structure, many production solidarity teams and collectives in Giong Trom, Thanh Phu, Ba Tri and especially the production collective of Phu Loi Thuong village (Mo Cay district) have been able to rebuild their ricefields and progress on the basis of irrigation work and of the introduction of progressive techniques into production, crop multiplication and intensive cultivation, thus raising the whole acreage into a two, three-crop area of relatively high yield (10 tons per hectare for the whole year).

The above results, although they represent only a first step, have opened up new prospects in the direction of agricultural production expansion, thus forming a premise for a solid solution to the question of grain production in Ben Tre. A whole series of new policies regarding the encouragement of production have created the conditions for Ben Tre to have more capability to struggle and find its own solution to the question of food for the province's population. For instance, in the last two years, starting from goods processed from the coconut tree and from the nut itself (which constitute an economic strength of Ben Tre), the province has been in a position to exchange commodities with other provinces and to export so as to trade for agricultural materials and equipment to serve production in return. In the future directions, if the strengths of the province are fully exploited (for instance, the coconut, sugar cane, marine products, etc.) Ben Tre will be fully enabled to solve its own problems of feeding and clothing its one million population by itself.

Thus, through many comprehensive and active methods and relying mainly on its own strength, Ben Tre will step-by-step struggle to solve firmly the local food question. In assessing this result, the Party congress of various echelons in the province is agreed that this constitutes the most outstanding achievement of the Ben Tre Party chapter and the people of Ben Tre in the last year. From a food deficient province Ben Tre has, after three years, come to produce enough for its own use. Since 1980, the total production of grain in Ben Tre reached

about 320,000 tons representing a per capital production of about 300 kilograms per year, or three times as compared to the days before Liberation. Besides, every year the province also contributes over 10,000 tons to the state. Although this still represents a small contribution equivalent to the contribution of one district in the provinces of Minh Hai or Hau Giang but in the case of Ben Tre, it represents the result of a long process of struggle and persistence to overcome many difficulties and hardships.

1751

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AGRICULTURE

POSITIVE IMPACT OF PRODUCTION CONTRACTING NOTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 15 Nov 82 p 2

[Article: "Cuu Long: 400 More Production Collectives Implement Product Contracting Out to the Laborers"]

[Text] Regarding this year's main crop there are 400 more agricultural production collectives in Cuu Long province implementing production contracting out to the laborers, thus raising the number of those collectives using the new contract format up to 562, representing 69 percent of all existing collectives in the province. Of the number cited above, the two districts of Cau Ngang and Tra Cu account for 120 to 141 such collectives.

The new contract format mobilizes and encourages the farmers to invest more capital, labor and materials in the preparation of fallow fields, in the improvement of the fields, in the use of new rice seed, in raising the level of intensive cultivation and in raising the paddy productivity. In the last summer-autumn crop, the paddy productivity of the collectives using the new contract format was uniformly higher than the norm. In Tra Cu District, which lies in a saltwater area, thanks to the application of the new contract, paddy productivity reaches 30 quintals per hectare and the total volume of summer-autumn rice production increases by 30 percent as compared to last year's crop. Collective 8 in Luu Nghiep village, which accepted breeding the seed for the district, has seen its paddy productivity reach 60 quintals per hectare.

The product contracting of the rice plant to the laborers has had a positive impact on the cooperativization movement in the province. The whole province now has 390 more production solidarity collectives and cells, with the districts of Cuu Long, Chau Thanh, Tieu Can and Tra Cu having from 50 to 60 more such collectives. At the present time, Cuu Long has 821 agricultural production collectives.

1751
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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

ACTIVITIES AT HOA BINH HYDROELECTRIC SITE REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Nov 82 p 1

[Article: "A Feverish Labor Front Working With Urgency: On the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Plant Construction Site Preparations Are Made for Filling the Da River"]

[Text] In the emulation movement entitled "90 days and nights of aggressive labor" started last 8 October, on the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Plant construction site, our cadres and workers have been, together with Soviet experts, proceeding to implement step by step the plan for filling in the Da River according to the exactly stipulated progression blueprints and they are making preparations for redirecting the stream towards the canal on the right hand side.

Before launching the emulation movement, those at the project site have drilled, dynamited, dug up and transported over 1.7 million cubic meters of earth and stone in the main channel of the canal on the right-hand side, and poured in 6,000 cubic meters of cement so as to reinforce the canal roof; scraped and took away 100,000 cubic meters of earth and stone from the main river bed; compacted over 1.2 million cubic meters of pebble and sand into the two ends of the dam. Furthermore, one must also count the work done on four tunnels on the left hand side bank where a boring into a 300-meter long hole has yielded 16,000 cubic meters of earth and stone, or the completion of 7 work categories in the subsidiary zone.

In this emulation movement, those at the construction site have concentrated on completing phase 1 of the major work needed to fill in the river which is to dig out 410,000 cubic meters of earth and stone from where the left-bank foundations will be laid; to construct a dam extending the rock anchors upstream which would take 380,000 cubic meters; to drag up from the riverbed 210,000 cubic meters of reserve sand and stone, to complete fully the canal on the right-hand side up to a height of 11 meters [as published]; and to build an arc-shaped dam that would take 46,000 cubic meters of clay. A very urgent task would be to prepare almost 1,000 cement blocks of over 5 tons each and 3,500 rock cuttings weighing many tons each so as to fill up what remains of the river at the final stage. By now, the laborers have accumulated four-fifths of the cement blocks and two-thirds of the oversize rocks that one needs, and those have been brought to the nearest spot for later use.

The activities on the entire construction site have been extremely feverish for over one month now. Many cells, brigades and units working in cement, on the tunnels, with the machinery, with the excavators, on drilling and dynamiting, etc. have increased their productivity from 5 to 10 percent as compared to last month.

The comrades in charge of the work and various units have reduced their meeting and guest-time to devote more time to closely supervising the concentrated work areas, on the focal points, so as to solve in time and on the spot the difficulties that are newly encountered. A floating bridge capable of bearing 700 tons is being retested chunk by chunk and preparations are made for assembling it so that by the time we reach the stage of filling up the river 40 transport trucks can follow one another to remove or bring in rock, cement and other necessary building materials. This transport convoy is being maintained and it is ready to roll.

Many sectors and localities pay attention to helping the construction site, to providing it adequately and in time with labor, building materials, food and grain according to plan, and to limit sending visitors to the site while the activities on the site itself are abounding and need to be attended to with great urgency, while physical safety must be insured in the working process.

The construction site workers are also making preparations to get materials and means and to make plans for continuous work progress after the phase 1 of filling the river, thus insuring the solidness of the major dam which will cut right across the river.

The result of this labor emulation movement is an important juncture in the process of constructing the 2-million kilowatt hydroelectric plant on the Da River.

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

SHIPBUILDING ACTIVITIES EXPANDED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Dec 82 p 1

[Article: "Engineering Department (Ministry of Communications and Transportation): Many Products Serve Hoa Binh Hydroelectric and Vung Tau Oil Drilling Projects"]

[Text; As of the end of November, the Engineering Department (Ministry of Communications and Transportation) has fulfilled over 90 percent of the year's plan. This year, marking a change in production focus, enterprises within the sector have built a series of new ocean-going-vessels, such as 800-hp tugboats, 2,000-ton barges, 1,000-ton sea barges, 535-ton river and sea barges, 600-ton river and sea freight vessels, 200-ton river barges, and 135-hp tugboats, and have repaired hundreds of these means of transportation.

Apart from building new vessels and repairing other means of transportation within the sector, these enterprises have also turned out many products in support for two key projects, producing ferryboats, assembling and setting up dredges with suctional power of 500 cubic meters per hour, made hundreds of pairs of buoys and pipes for conveying mud for the Hoa Binh hydroelectric project.

This year, in response to a crash order by the Hoa Binh project, the enterprises have turned out 6 steel ferryboats in 2 months, and 2 tugboats as well as 116 mud buoys for dredges in 1 month. In support for the Vung Tau oil drilling project, in the first 6 months of the year the engineering sector of the Ministry of Communications and Transportation has rehabilitated a B.66 barge, which has a 2,000-ton cargo capacity, and specializes in transporting oil drilling equipment. This is a complex special means of transportation. Cadres and workers at the Bach Dang Shipbuilding Factory have strived to complete the task ahead of schedule. The sector is urgently manufacturing two new sea pontoons to carry the substructure of the oil drilling rig. The Bach Dang Shipbuilding Factory is producing 980-hp sea tugboats and 400-hp passenger sea vessels to carry specialists, cadres and workers to and from the oil drilling rig.

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL HYDROELECTRIC STATIONS URGED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Dec 82 p 2

[Article by Bui Quang Co, Engineer, Ministry of Power and Coal: "Developing Small Hydroelectric Power Stations"]

[Text] The entire nation's power source breaks down as follows: 41 percent thermoelectric, over 29 percent hydroelectric, and 39 percent from diesel and turbine generators. Of thermoelectric power stations, only those in the north run on coal (24 percent); the rest use oil. During many years of operation, power plants in the north have been poorly cared for, leading to equipment deterioration; in the past few years, however, those in the south and center have been short of spare parts and supplies. To overcome the power shortage, we must strive to build new sources, paying appropriate attention to small hydroelectric stations.

Our country has very rich hydraulic power sources. It is estimated that nearly 2,200 rivers and creeks of more than 10 kilometers in length store an economic reserve of 80 billion kilowatts per year. This figure will reach 90 billion kW if small hydraulic sources are included. Moreover, these sources are distributed in a relatively even pattern throughout the country. In mountainous and midland regions, there are heavy rainfalls, a fairly thick network of rivers and creeks, and steep slopes. In Annam especially, the mountain range is contiguous to the sea, which means these are high waterfalls. In midland and delta regions, aside from large rivers there also are numerous systems of canals, already in operation or being built. Principal materials used to build dams, such as sand, pebbles, stone and wood, can be found in every locality. Our mechanical sector can produce proper equipment for small hydroelectric stations. These are favorable conditions which must be capitalized on.

In the years before the August Revolution, French colonialists built a number of small hydroelectric stations designed to exploit our national resources, such as the Ta Sa station, 825 kW; Na Ngan, 750 kW, in Cao Bang; Ban Thi in Cho Don, Bac Thai, 140kW; Bong Mieu, 100kW; in Quang Nam-Da Nang; Suoi Vang in Da Lat, 3,100 kW; Dray Linh, 480 kW; Ea Nao, 80 kW in Dac Lac; Bau Can, 180 kW, in Gia Lai-Kon Tum, etc. For many years now, our party and state have paid attention to building and developing hydroelectric power. The Seventh Party Central Committee Plenary Session (1960) stated clearly,

"We must devote our utmost attention to using existing energy to build small hydroelectric stations, especially in rural and mountainous areas." In 1976, a resolution of the Fourth Party Congress also evoked the possibility of "building small hydroelectric stations in midland and mountainous areas, particularly on the Central Highlands." Regarding economic development tasks and goals, the Fifth Party Congress mentioned the need "to associate hydroelectric power with thermoelectric power, large power plants with medium and small ones, and find ways to give southern provinces more power sources... and to build medium and small hydroelectric works in the center, on the Central Highlands and in northern mountainous provinces."

From 1957 to 1965, we rehabilitated and built over 30 small hydroelectric stations. From 1966 to 1972, over 250 stations were built. And from 1972 to the present time, over 30 new stations have been added. Small hydroelectric stations already built log a total capacity of about 25,000 kW, and generate a volume of electric power of about 90 million kW/h per year, thus making it possible to save nearly 25,000 tons of oil annually. They bring light to nearly 200,000 households--about 1 million people--and supply electric power to central and local industries, as well as to pumping stations and factories involved in milling and processing grain and food. In addition, hydroelectric power is used, in concert with manual labor, to bring irrigation water into the fields.

A number of provinces, such as Hoang Lien Son, Cao Bang, Ha Son Binh, Ha Tuyen, Son La, etc., have successfully guided the people and mobilized their potential to build small hydroelectric stations. After our country was totally liberated, the southern provinces, particularly the ones on the Central Highlands, and Quang Nam-Da Nang, have made a big effort to build and develop small hydroelectric stations. Apart from existing stations, the southern provinces have set up 10 small ones--Song Cung (4000kW); Vinh Trinh (20kW), Quang Nam-Da Nang; Ea Tieu (60kW), and Me Van (12kW) in Dac Lac, etc., as well as a number of stations to serve military units on the Central Highlands, and in Military Regions 1 and 2, in the north. That a number of stations have been built--for instance, Song Cung (400kW)--is proof that we can produce equipment needed for expanding the network of small hydroelectric power plants. While building these stations, we have noted that:

- Since the central echelon is not yet able to supply all capital, equipment and materials to build small hydroelectric stations, the localities must take the lead, depending on their own capabilities. Their capabilities of mobilizing local manpower and capital are not too small to build hydroelectric works. Localities with limited capabilities must, first of all, actively engage in planning, draw up blueprints for construction, investigate possibilities, and prepare supporting economic and technical documents, before asking the state to assist, and supply equipment and other kinds of materials not available locally.

While the state must have a realistic investment policy, the Ministry of Power and Coal must set up an agency specializing in assisting the localities. The latter must have an adhoc organization to help the provincial people's committee exert guidance, and to act as project chief in terms of investment,

planning and construction. In our country, the development of small hydroelectric stations has been defined as a joint undertaking between state and people, and between central echelon and localities. Prospective users of a power plant--locality and sector alike--are required to invest in it, and to build it, preferably at an easily accessible site, and in a way that brings about high economic returns and instant load.

Experiences show that prime building sites are the ones already equipped with irrigation works, or located on top of irrigation canals and cascades measuring from 20 meters to 100 meters in height, and in zones of convenient communications access. New projects must be built in accordance with the common model, which includes the water storage section, water pipes, pressure reservoir, pressure pipes, machinery section, and the electric network connecting the latter with consuming households. In building the water storage section, an effort must be made to avoid the overflow dam concept, and to construct floodgates with local materials. Ditches for conveying water must not be longer than 2,000 meters. In stations with a 200 kW capacity, power lines must not go beyond 10 km.

As a superintendent in the development of small hydroelectric power plants nationwide, the Ministry of Power is striving to complete, by 1985, building and assembling 15 hydroelectric stations with a capacity in excess of 200 kW, while helping localities and sectors to build from 20 to 30 stations with a capacity less than 200 kW. To solve the equipment problem for small hydroelectric stations, the Ministry of Power and Coal will perfect the design and manufacturing of 4 kinds of hydraulic turbines with capacities from 1 to 320 kW, and will coordinate with the Ministry of Engineering and Metals in the manufacture of a number of small 1,000 kW-hydroelectric generators. The ministry of Engineering and Metals is manufacturing these generators, as well as automatic regulators, for the Phu Ninh project (Quang Nam-Da Nang). At present, the production of new small-capacity generators often encounters difficulties because raw materials and materials must be imported. In the past few years, we have imported a fairly large number of diesel generators; now that the diesel part of many of these generators has broken down, it is advisable to use fully their power-generating part by modifying it for use in a small hydroelectric station.

At a time when the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Project on the Da River is stepping up its building pace, so that the power plant can be put into commission during the Third 5-year plan (1986-90), and when the Pha Lai Power Plant Project is getting ready to bring its first power-generating unit into service by mid-1983, many localities in the nation continue to see the benefit of developing small hydroelectric power and are preparing to build a new series of works in 1983.

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HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF WOMEN SEEN AS SOCIAL ISSUE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Dec 82 p 3

Article by TB: "A Social Issue Worthy of Concern"

Text At present, at Song Boi state farm about 400 women from 25 to 40 years old cannot marry. The same situation exists in many state farms and state forests. Ten to 15 years ago, in response to party and union appeals, these female workers volunteered to go to mountainous and jungle areas to aid in development of the economy. They were industrious and valiant laborers with many achievements in labor, and also in the fight in the war of sabotage against the U.S. imperialists. The war has been the cause of this situation, partly because labor transfers failed to strike a numerical balance between men and women. For instance, at the Ban Lieu state farm in Quang Ninh 90 percent of the labor force were women. As a result, many women did not marry. Loneliness has, more or less, affected their enthusiasm about labor. To marry and have a family are their biggest wish. A very small number of these women have married demobilized armymen and local ethnic peasants; but most of them have been condemned to spinsterhood. What's more, spiritual and cultural life at state farms and state forests is very unsatisfactory. At times, movies are shown once or twice a year. Books and newspapers also are very scarce. Faced with this situation, a number of women want to bear a child. For instance, at Song Boi state farm 8 women were pregnant out of wedlock. They were considered "guilty." Due to tremendous pressures of public opinion, three of them were forced to resort to abortion. But the remaining five resolved to protect their babies, a hope and source of happiness for their existence. Even women not yet involved in extramarital pregnancy told the cadres, "If I become pregnant, I hope that the party and union will treat my case with understanding."

What was the response of party and youth union organizations to these women's wishes?

I still remember the days in 1971, when thousands of youths of both sexes enthusiastically volunteered to go to the hilly areas of Thanh Son, Vinh Phu, to build a new economic zone for youths. Many women left because of patriotism. However, some of them were fleeing a nasty public judgment, Ms X for instance. Three days after arriving at the building site, X disappeared. Some time later, it was learned that X went to the district hospital with a request for

abortion. Upon receipt of this report, the party committee and youth union sent representatives to the hospital to visit Ms X and tell her positively, "The mass organizations do not blame you; on the contrary, they love you very much, and look forward to your prompt recovery and return to the ranks of glorious labor." X was moved to tears. Some time later, she became an outstanding laborer, with progressive achievements in all respects.

This attitude of the party committee and youth union of the Thanh Son economic zone is a correct one, laced with our party's humanitarian communist viewpoint. It runs counter to feudalistic ethics that see extramarital pregnancy in all circumstances as a transgression. It is very regrettable that, in many cases, public opinion still is too harsh on these women. Worse yet, cadres and party members imbued with feudalistic prejudices continue to mistreat them. In spite of that, a woman once said, "Even if I am disciplined by the party, I will continue to put my shoulder to the wheel. And for me, the important thing is that I have a child, and have found a source of happiness in life."

After decades of war, the present percentage of men from 25 to 35 years of age is 43.2 percent, vs 56.8 for women. This discrepancy indicates that hundreds of thousands of women will end up living a celibate life. And this is a big postwar social issue. There are two possibilities: one, these surplus women will have to live the lonely life of a nun to protect the "chastity" which feudalistic morality has imposed upon them; or, two, they are entitled to become mothers and to have children--the only source of happiness in their private lives. Therefore, we hope that the state will adopt a new law, or amendments to the marriage and family law, in order to protect and care for unmarried mothers with solicitude. Nobody has the right to humiliate or mistreat them or their children.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES NEED FOR POPULATION STABILIZATION

Hanoi DAI DOAN KET in Vietnamese 10 Nov 82 p 5

[Article by Dr Dang Thu, Labor Science Institute: "What Is Our Optimum Population?"]

[Excerpts] Demographers computed that with an annual population increase of 3 percent, there will be many countries with more than 1 billion people at the end of the 21st century.

While our national increase is lower, many areas of our country are higher than this rate. Presently, our annual national population increase is 2.4 percent. If this rate is maintained, we will have 800 million people in the end of the next century.

The World Bank has predicted that our population would reach 220 million before leveling. They are completely right, because presently, nationwide Vietnamese women give birth to five children on the average. If each Vietnamese woman were to give birth to only 3 children, we would have a population of 150 million in mid-21st century.

Let's ponder: What are our present and future optimum populations? Fifty-six million as at present or 100 or 150 or 200 million?

In any discussion of an optimum population we are talking about building human happiness, maintaining resources for future use, decreasing environmental pollution, and helping the ecosystem remain undisturbed. This is the very problem of optimum populations, which is to discuss living standards, resources--primarily lands--production formulas, science and technology, political and military strength, accumulation, culture, lifespan, etc.

Countries with high standards have about 1,000 kg of grains per capita, per year. We only have 270 kg of grain per capita. Our country is the 15th most populous in the world and is counted among the poorest countries in the world, with the smallest land area per capita in the world; if we continue to increase our population, we won't be able to solve the food problem.

Only by stabilizing our population soon can we solve the food problem and have capital, with which to benefit from the achievements of the scientific and technological revolutions and to have favorable conditions for engaging vigorously in industry in order to advance rapidly, etc.

BIOGRAPHIC

INFORMATION ON VIETNAMESE PERSONALITIES

[The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese-language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisked job title indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.]

Nguyễn Tăng Am [NGUYEENX TAWNG AAMS], Professor

Vice Minister of Public Health; he led a delegation to Burma from 18 to 24 December 1982. (NHAN DAN 27 Dec 82 p 4)

Ngô Đức Chí [NGOO DUWCS CHIS]

*Vice President of the Association of Vietnamese in Belgium; his election to this position was announced in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 13 Dec 82 p 4)

Nguyễn Văn Chiến [NGUYEENX VAWN CHIEENR], Professor

*President of the Geological Science and Technology Association; the formation of this association was announced in the cited source. (KHOA HOC VA DOI SONG 1 Dec 82 p 1)

Nguyễn Văn Cóc [NGUYEENX VAWN COOCS], *Senior Colonel

*Commander of the Thang Long Air Force group; on 22 December 1982 he welcomed a visiting PRK delegation. (NHAN DAN 23 Dec 82 p 4)

Phạm Thế Duyệt [PHAMJ THEES DUYEETJ]

Alternate Member of the VCP Central Committee; *Vice Chairman and Secretary General of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions; recently he started working at the Thang Long Bridge site, reporting on his confederation's activities. (LAO DONG 9 Dec 82 p 2)

Nguyễn Đăng [NGUYEENX DANGS]

Member of the Central Committee of the VCP; Secretary of the VCP Committee, Cuu Long Province; on 19 December 1982 he attended a sports competition in Can Tho. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 20 Dec 82 p 1)

Trần Đức Giang [TRAANF DUWCS GIANG]

*Vice President of the Geological Science and Technology Association; the formation of this association was announced in the cited source. (KHOA HOC VA DOI SONG 1 Dec 82 p 1)

Nguyễn Văn Hải [NGUYEENX VAWN HAIF]

*Chairman of the People's Committee, Kim Thi District, Hai Hung Province; he was mentioned in an article on rear services functions in his district. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Dec 82 p 3)

Trần Hạnh [TRAANF HANH], Senior Colonel

Deputy Commander of the Air Force; on 22 December 1982 he welcomed a PRK delegation on a visit of the Thang Long group. (NHAN DAN 23 Dec 82 p 4)

Tăng Văn Hải [TAWNG VAWN HAIR]

*Vice President of the Association of Vietnamese in Belgium; his election to this position was announced in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 13 Dec 82 p 4)

Nguyễn Thị Hằng [NGUYEENX THIJ HAWNGF]

Secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; *Chairman of the Council of Research on Young Women; the first meeting of this Council under the Secretariat of the HCM Communist Youth Union took place on 11 December 1982. (NHAN DAN 13 Dec 82 p 1)

Phan Văn Kim [PHAN VAWN KIM]

SRV Ambassador to the GDR; on 16 December 1982 he presented awards to components and cadres of the GDR Vocational Training Academy. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Dec 82 p 4)

Vũ Mí Kế [VUWF MIS KER]

Vice chairman of the People's Committee, Ha Tuyen Province; Head of the delegation to the National Assembly; on 21 December 1982 he was present at a meeting between Truong Chinh and a Ha Tuyen youth delegation. (NHAN DAN 22 Dec 82 p 1)

Nguyễn Xuân Mười [NGUYEENX XUAAN MUWOWIF], *Lieutenant Colonel

*Commander, 30th Signal Group; he was mentioned in an article about his unit. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Dec 82 p 2)

Trần Nghiem [TRAANF NGHIEEM], *Major General

*Commander, 9th Military Region; on 19 December 1982 he attended a sports competition in Can Tho. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 20 Dec 82 p 1)

Phan Van Nghien [PHAN VAWN NGHIEEN], deceased aka Nguyen Trong Khanh [NGUYEENX TRONGJ KHANH]

Member of the VCP; Director of the Worker Management Department, Ministry of Labor; born on 15 June 1925 in Hai Phong, he died on 11 December 1982 at the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Hospital. (NHAN DAN 12 Dec 82 p 4)

Truong Quang Ngo [TRUWOWNG QUANG NGOO]

Ambassador to Poland; on 20 December 1982 he received members of the Executive Committee of the Poland-Vietnam Friendship Association. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 82 p 4)

Tran Van Phan [TRAANF VAWN PHAANF], deceased

Member of the VCP; former member of the Hung Yen Provincial VCP Committee; Deputy Director of the Office of the Council of Ministers; born in 1919 in Phu Tien District, Hai Hung Province, he was in retirement at the time of his death on 27 December 1982. (NHAN DAN 28 Dec 82 p 4)

Nguyen Van Phiet [NGUYEENX VAWN PHIEETJ], *Colonel

His experiences as commander of the 57th Battalion, Thanh Loa Missile Group in 1972 were reported in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Dec 82 p 3)

Truong Trung Phung [TRUWOWNG TRUNG PHUNGJ], deceased

Former Director of the Military Training Department; delegate at the 1st session of the National Assembly; Colonel on mission at the PAVN's General Staff; born in Ha Nam Ninh Province, he was in retirement at the time of his death on 23 December 1982 at age 74, at Thong Nhat Hospital. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 82 p 4)

Do Tan Si [DOOX TAANS SIX]

*President of the Association of Vietnamese in Belgium; his election to this position was announced in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 13 Dec 82 p 4)

Phung The Tai [PHUNGF THEES TAIF]

Deputy Chief of Staff, VPA; on 19 December 1982 he attended an Armed Forces sports competition in Can Tho. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 20 Dec 82 p 1)

Nguyen Tho [NGUYEENX THOJ]

*Secretary of the VCP Committee, Kim Thi District, Hai Hung Province; he was mentioned in an article on rear services functions in his district. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Dec 82 p 3)

Nguyen Minh Tho [NGUYEENX MINH THOJ]

*Secretary General of the Association of Vietnamese in Belgium; his election to this position was announced in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 13 Dec 82 p 4)

Nguyen Van Tuan [NGUYEENX VAWN TUAANS]

Director of the Real Estate and Public Works Projects Service, Ho Chi Minh City; his article on measures for organizing emulation efforts in his directory appeared in the cited source. (XAY DUNG Nov 82 p 1)

Le Thi Tuy [LEE THIJ TUYS]

*Vice Chairman of the Council of Research on Young Women; the first meeting of this Council under the Secretariat of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union took place on 11 December 1982. (NHAN DAN 13 Dec 82 p 1)

Pham Quoc Tuong [PHAMJ QUOOCS TUWOWNGF]

*Vice President of the Geological Science and Technology Association; the formation of this association was announced in the cited source. (KHOA HOC VA DOI SONG 1 Dec 82 p 1)

Uan [UAAN], *Lieutenant Colonel

*Deputy Commander, 319th Div, 3rd MR; recently he helped civilians involved in a traffic accident in Ha Son Binh Province. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 14 Dec 82 p 3)

Vu Xuan Vinh [VUX XUAAN VINH], Senior Colonel

Director of the Foreign Relations Department, Ministry of National Defense; on 22 December 1982 he accompanied a PRK delegation on a visit of the Thang Long Air Force group. (NHAN DAN 23 Dec 82 p 4)

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